

THE TIMES Tomorrow

David Butler makes sense of the opinion polls while Frank Johnson continues on campaign trail, observing Denis Healey in Peterborough and Cambridge. Liza with a "zee": "I'm not Sally Bowles," says Liza Minnelli, who won an Oscar for her portrayal of that fascinating lady in the hugely successful film *Cabaret*. This week she opened a new season in London, where she once went to school for a few weeks - but then she went to school everywhere for a few weeks, thanks to the peregrinations of her mother, Judy Garland. Liza Minnelli talks frankly to Duncan Fallowell on the Spectrum page tomorrow.

On the Friday Page, Penny Perriek looks at the plight of the appalling number of children in Britain who are subjected to the terrors and humiliations of incest.

The sports pages ask: Can Britain's golf hope, Nick Faldo, become the first player for a quarter of a century to win three successive major tournaments? Faldo faces Severiano Ballesteros in the Car Care Plan International at Sand Moor, John Hennessey reports.

An eight-page Special Report on Saudi Arabia investigates whether the Arab paymaster really holds the key to peace in the Middle East.

Pay deals lift living standards

Living standards have increased for those in work, with earnings rising by 7.5 per cent in the year to March against inflation of 4.6 per cent. Figures out tomorrow are expected to show inflation at 4 per cent or less for the year to April.

£2m gift

The National Hospital for Nervous Diseases in London is to receive £2m from the sons of the Ruler of Dubai for its attempts to save their mother, Shaikha Latifa Al Maktoum, who died yesterday.

Sudan mutiny

The Sudanese Army has crushed a mutiny among troops in the south of the country. It said the unrest was caused by foreign contacts.

Hailsham anger

Lord Hailsham, of St Marylebone, who accused the media of hounding judges. He said political pressures of governments were also threatening the independence of the judiciary.

'Dirty war' fear

The deaths of two men in an Argentine highway shoot-out last Saturday have revived fears that "dirty war" violence of the 1970s is returning.

Hever's fast £1m

More than £1m was raised on the first day of the two-day sale of the Hever Castle estate at Edenbridge, Kent.

Brighton choice

Jimmy Melia, the Brighton manager, has chosen Howett in preference to Ryan in midfield of the FA Cup final against Manchester United.

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Letters On Lebanon reporting from Rabbi David Goldberg, quitting EEC, from Mr Cosmo Russell; parish records, from Mr H. Pesken.
Leading articles: Conservative manifesto; Moslem divorcees. Features, pages 10 and 12.
Which party has the greater spending power? How the Severo disaster could rebound on Britain. Barbara Castle on Mrs Thatcher's campaign style. Spectrum: Love thy neighbour... if you can.
Books, page 11
Anthony Quinton reviews the Singer brothers; Andrew Sinclair on fiction; Fiona MacCarthy on names; Peter Jones on translation; Paul Barker on Presidents; John Russell Taylor on Hitchcock.
Obituary, page 14
Sir Roger Fulford, Rt Hon Sir Gordon Willmer.

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Manifesto theme is liberty

Tories pledge laws to curb trade unions and councils

The Conservative manifesto, published yesterday, proposes curbs on union rights to call strikes without secret ballots and the abolition of the GLC and English metropolitan county councils.

Mr Michael Foot said the document contained "just more of the same, shameful, disastrous policies". Union leaders reacted angrily to the proposal for secret ballots.

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Further changes in trade union law, in local government and in the state industries are prominent in the proposals for a fresh term of office which the Conservative Party yesterday offered the electorate.

The Employment Acts of 1980 and 1982, which limited trade union immunities, changing the laws governing picketing and the closed shop, would be followed by a third.

In the words of the Conservative manifesto, the new laws would give union members the right to hold ballots for the election of governing bodies of trade unions, and the right periodically to decide whether their unions should have party political funds.

It would also "curb the legal immunity of unions to call strikes without the prior approval of those concerned through a fair and secret ballot".

The English metropolitan county councils and the Greater London Council, created in the 1960s and 1970s by Conservative administrations, are to be abolished as "wasteful and unnecessary". They happen to be Labour controlled.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, introducing the manifesto, said the councils had "developed bureaucracies far in excess of their functions".

Bureaucracy was waste and "just not tolerable".

In the wake of the local government legislation of 1980 and 1982, there is to be a third attempt to limit local authorities' expenditure, extending to England and Wales powers which central government already has in Scotland, to put a ceiling on rate increases.

Reform of the nationalized industries, the manifesto says, is central to economic recovery.

Mr Roy Jenkins and Dr David Owen, of the SDP, said the manifesto offered the prospect of three to four million unemployed for the rest of the decade.

Labour leaders agreed that collective pay bargaining would be planned under their proposed national economic assessment, which would determine growth in public spending, employment and incomes.

Mrs Thatcher told 400 prospective candidates not to be defensive about the Government's unemployment record. Her message was to be "cool, calm and elected" (Page 4).

Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, gave a warning against Soviet exploitation of the British general election and short cuts to disarmament (Page 4).

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the gas and electricity industries. The Conservatives will examine how to decentralize British Rail and bring in private enterprise, and they will "seek to make rail freight more competitive".

The manifesto claims that the Government has "laid the foundations for a dynamic and prosperous future", and that the rewards of four years of Conservative rule are beginning to appear.

Its legislative proposals are few, its claims for the Government's record bold. The language is moderate but not modest. The unemployed are paying a price for past errors (for which trade unions are blamed) "through no fault of their own".

But the Government "has an impressive record in helping the unemployed". There is a vein of pipe abuse of the Conservatives' opponents. Labour is accused of "vicious" resistance to council



Mrs Thatcher at the launching of the Tory manifesto yesterday (Photograph: Harry Kerr)

house sales of "hypocrites" over the cost of social benefits; of being "reckless and naive" in gambling with Britain's defences; above all, of "cruel deceit" in claiming they could abolish unemployment by printing or borrowing money.

The Conservative approach is described as "straightforward and resolute. We mean what we say, and we stick to our purpose".

Mrs Thatcher, in her foreword, identifies three challenges. Continued on back page, col 1

Outcry at Tory proposals from Labour and Alliance

By A Staff Reporter

Hostile reaction to the Conservative Manifesto came last night from the leaders of the other political parties, the Association of Metropolitan Authorities and the trade union movement.

Mr Michael Foot, leader of the Labour Party said it contained "just more of the same, shameful, disastrous policies we have had over the last four years".

Speaking on the Jimmy Young Show on BBC Radio he said: "What it really means is more of the same or even worse. That is what she proposes for the British people and I believe they are too wise to accept it."

On a tour of his constituency of Blaenau Gwent, which embraces the old Ebbw Vale, Mr Foot said: "Given the state of the economy in this country and considering the appalling figures for those on the poverty line, it is a manifesto of miserable complacency."

Mr Roy Jenkins and Dr David Owen, leaders of the Social Democratic Party, said the manifesto offered a continuation of misery and the prospect of three to four million unemployed for the rest of the decade.

Speaking in Leicester Mr Jenkins said: "Mrs Thatcher



Mr Foot at campaign conference yesterday

creates despair and calls it a principle. She does not even wring her hands over the unemployed, for whom she will do nothing."

Mrs Shirley Williams, the SDP president, said in Formby, Merseyside, that "the lie at the heart of the Conservative manifesto" was that the Government's monetarist policies had made Britain a stronger, more competitive country and must be continued.

For the unemployed and school-leavers without hope of a job this was like telling a drowning man how to sink faster, she said.

The TUC Employment Committee said in a statement: "The Conservative Manifesto does not contain a single shred of serious thinking about industrial relations. All it offers is another round of union-bashing masquerading as a substitute for industrial relations policy."

Sir Jack Smart, chairman of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, said Conservative proposals to abolish metropolitan councils and the Greater London Council would inflict wounds from which local democracy would never recover.

'More disasters' warning

Penlee report condemned

By Craig Seton

Opinion was divided and reaction was angry yesterday over the findings of the 29-day public inquiry into the Penlee lifeboat disaster. Condemned as "spineless and virtually useless" by a solicitor representing the families of two dead lifeboatmen, it was welcomed as thorough and fair by the coastguard service and the Royal Naval Lifeboat Institution.

The report cleared two coastguard officers of blame for the tragedy in which 16 people died, but said the lifeboat, Solomon Browne, should have been launched earlier. It said others might have acted differently from Mr Robbie Roberts, the coastguard's district controller at Falmouth, but said his actions fell well short of a wrongful act or default.

It also cleared of blame the master and crew of the coaster,

Union Star, and accepted that they had taken reasonable steps to save themselves as they drifted helplessly towards the Cornish cliffs in a violent storm on December 19, 1981.

Mr Noel Horner, a solicitor representing the families of Kevin Smith and Gary Wallis, at 22 the youngest members of the Solomon Browne crew, said: "The inquiry has shown that the coastguard service needs radical reorganization and lots more money spent on it. Without that, we will get more Penlees."

Mr Horner, who at the end of the first day of the inquiry had said that it sounded like a "whitewash", refused to use the word again yesterday, but said: "It has been a waste of time, and in a way it makes me wonder why we came."

Mrs Pat Smith, mother of Kevin Smith, expressed disap-

pointment at the report. She insisted that, if the rescue had been coordinated from Land's End, the lifeboat would have been launched earlier and would have succeeded in taking off those on the Union Star.

Lieutenant Commander Tim Fetherston-Dilke, the chief coastguard, said he was pleased that allegations against his men had been shown to be unsubstantiated.

However, Lieutenant Commander John Douglas, a former chief inspector of coastguard who had expressed alarm at the service's reorganization and the rundown of Gwennap Head, said nothing he had heard in the report changed his view that its findings on coastguard reorganization were a whitewash.

"There are too many questions left unanswered."

Syrians refuse to meet Habib

From Robert Fisk Damascus

Syria closed the door still further yesterday on any dialogue over foreign troop withdrawals from Lebanon by announcing that Mr Philip Habib, President Reagan's special Middle East negotiator, would not be welcome in Damascus during his latest visit to the Middle East.

MR Habib flew to Beirut yesterday in the evident hope that he could mediate between the Lebanese government and President Assad over Syria's rejection of the withdrawal agreement signed by Israel and Lebanon on Tuesday.

In personal attack on the American diplomat, the Syrian news agency Sana said that "it has been decided not to receive United States emissary Philip Habib in Syria because we have nothing to discuss with him, and especially because he is one of the most hostile American officials to the Arabs and their causes."

President Assad is said to have expressed his own personal reservations about Mr Habib, and apparently tried to communicate this to Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State, during the latter's visit here two weeks ago.

In Beirut, Lebanese Foreign Ministry officials were still expressing the hope that some form of negotiation might soon begin between the Lebanese and Syrian authorities. President Amin Gemayel of Lebanon has said that contact may soon be made between the two sides.

But in Damascus, where the press has now dubbed the agreement "Camp Shultz" - a cynical reference to the Camp David treaty between Egypt and

Continued on back page, col 6

Burglar escapes with £1½m art treasures

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Reporter

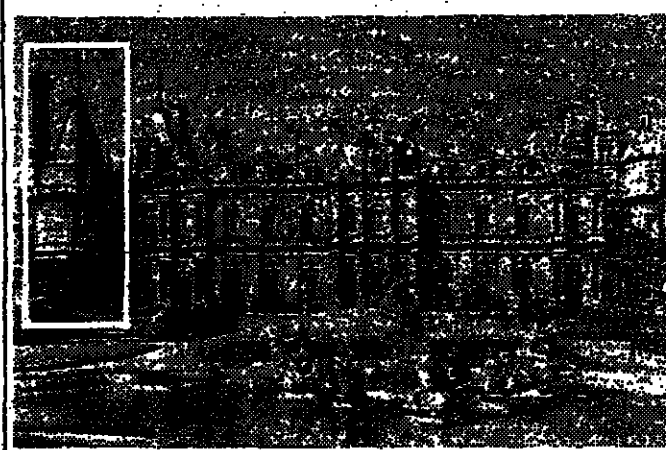
A lone burglar yesterday made off with works of art worth £500,000, part of the world-famous Rothschild collection, after breaking into Waddesdon Manor, the National Trust estate near Aylesbury in Buckinghamshire.

The burglar scaled the outside of the nineteenth century country house, climbed into a drawing room and rifled display cabinets before escaping with 25 snuff boxes, figurines and rings. He triggered alarms but police and security staff were too late to catch him as he fled across the estate's 150 acres of parkland.

Thames Valley police began a hunt for what they believe was a thoroughly professional burglar who had planned his operation carefully although there was some bewilderment in the art world about what will happen to the haul.

The stolen works are part of a collection which is well known within the art world. The burglar would have difficulty selling them.

Last night staff at Waddesdon Manor, left to the National



Waddesdon Manor, showing the Tower from which a burglar stole art works valued at £1½m.

Albion closure looms as meeting is refused

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

National union leaders and Leyland Vehicles management will today try to resolve the 10-day strike by 1,300 workers at the Albion truck axle plant in Glasgow.

The prospect of a permanent closure of the factory loomed larger yesterday after shop stewards refused to call a meeting of strikers as demanded by the company.

Sixty union leaders at the plant, mostly members of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, said they would not call one until the company was prepared to have "meaningful" talks about compulsory redundancies.

In a letter to strikers on Tuesday, Mr Ronald Hancock, chairman of Leyland Vehicles, said the factory was less than 20 volunteers short of the 146 needed. It would be closed if the

men did not return to work on Monday, he said.

BL will start laying off 3,000 production workers at their Bathgate and Leyland truck plants next week.

The six-week sit-in by 400 workers at Timex's Milton plant in Dundee, ended yesterday (Our Dundee Correspondent writes). The company agreed to take back its demand for 190 compulsory redundancies and reinstate 200 people dismissed during the dispute.

Work will resume today, but the dispute has delayed the launch of Sinclair Research's miniature television by six weeks, losing an estimated £6m in sales. Timex makes the two-inch flat screen.

Sinclair said yesterday the television would cost £60.

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London Transport aims to win passengers with new Travelcards

By Michael Bailey
Transport Editor

London will take a step towards the Continental approach to public transport next Sunday when London Transport introduces Travelcards, giving free access to the Underground and buses after a lump sum payment.

The sum of £480 will buy a year's unlimited travel on buses and Tubes throughout greater London, and £4 will buy a week's unlimited travel in the central area.

The shift from buying individual tickets is expected to generate big savings for London Transport through increased travel, fewer staff and reduced fraud.

It will make public transport more like the private car, and as many Continental cities have shown, with cheap, period passes, will encourage people to use buses and trains instead of cars for journeys they feel they have already paid for. Other cards will be available for monthly and quarterly travel on any combination of four zones. More than 300,000 are expected to be sold by the summer.

A new drive against fraud is also being launched, Dr Keith

Bright, the chairman of London Transport, announced yesterday to try to reduce the £40m a year which fares avoidance is believed to cost London Transport.

For the first time passengers paying at the exit barrier will automatically be given a receipt for the money many suspect has been hitherto pocketed.

Nearly one hundred extra

booking clerks are being recruited to ensure ticket offices are always manned and additional bus and Tube inspectors are being trained.

The Travelcard is part of a package of cheap fares negotiated through the courts this year after last year's Fares Fair debacle. Many fares will be reduced by a quarter and some, particularly on long Underground journeys, by a half.

The 40p fare for central area Underground journeys will cover twice the area (both the existing City and West End zones). The 40p bus fare will be reduced to 30p, but the 20p fare stays the same.

The cheaper fares and Travelcards (the latter are available from newsagents as well as London Transport outlets) are expected to generate an extra £5 million bus and 35 million Tube journeys. Last year journeys dropped by 5 per cent after fares doubled in March.

Dr Bright, disclosing a breakthrough result after £250m grants from the Greater London Council, said at a London press conference that the emphasis now would be on higher productivity, lower costs and improved services.

Smoking poll

Most Underground travellers think London Transport should give up the idea of completely banning smoking on the Tube, according to an opinion poll published yesterday (the Press Association reports).

The survey, conducted by MORI for the pro-smoking group, Forest, shows that 54 per cent of 721 travellers questioned were against the plan, now under consideration.

Only 18 per cent said there should be a total ban, while 46 per cent of non-smokers thought trains should include smoking compartments.

The results have been sent to London Transport.

24-hour guard on orchids

By Hugh Clayton
Environment Correspondent

Rare wild orchids are to be guarded day and night by naturalists to prevent a repetition of last year's thefts. The plants include some of the most handsome and bizarre of the British wild plants.

Patrols will start soon as the next two months cover the flowering periods of most of Britain's 50 wild orchid varieties. The plants grow in a complex relationship with fungus in the soil and seldom survive replanting.

The orchids are all relatives of the much larger and more familiar imported hothouse varieties. Some of their names refer to the strange shapes adopted by their flowers. The lizard orchid with its long dangling flowers has almost vanished from its haunts in eastern England and some wild specimens were dug up and removed last year.

Mr Richard Steele, the director-general of the Nature Conservancy Council, said: "Round-the-clock patrols are necessary to thwart those who think only of their own pleasure and profit." The council, a garage which administers wildlife law, and the Essex Fairbairn Trust have said the £4,000 needed to finance the patrols.

Belgrano attacker tells of fireball

By a Staff Reporter

Commander Christopher Wreford-Brown, captain of the Argentine ship *Conqueror*, which sank the General Belgrano, later regretted the loss of life but would not hesitate to launch such an attack again if he had to, according to a book on the Falklands conflict published today.

The commander describes the sinking of the Argentine warship in *Our Falklands War*, written by Geoffrey Underwood and based on first-hand accounts of the task force. The Belgrano was sunk with the loss of more than 300 lives on May 2 last year.

The commander was at the periscope of his submarine as two torpedoes hit the cruiser. He said: "I saw one hit midship. I saw a fireball. I saw a cloud of dirty smoke as the second torpedo hit."

The crew of the submarine cheered at the sound of the explosion and the *Conqueror* moved away at speed to avoid any depth charge attacks from the cruiser's destroyer escorts. The ships searched the area where the submarine had been for a short time. Commander Wreford-Brown said: "Afterwards I had a certain amount of regret about the loss of life. I did not know the numbers involved, but one presumed it was considerable."

We had countered the threat the General Belgrano offered to our task force and the loss of life they could have caused us. "Now I feel we did just what we were invited to do and I would have no hesitation in doing it again."

"It is a fact of life that if you want to go to war you must expect losses," the commander said.

Describing the run-up to the attack he said the *Conqueror* had located the Belgrano on May 1 and followed her for more than 30 hours, reporting to London that she had been found. The submarine remained several miles to the stern of the cruiser, deep below her.

The instructions from London were to attack if the ship went inside the total exclusion zone but on May 2 the rules for engagement were changed. Commander Wreford-Brown said: "She was 20 to 30 miles outside the zone and in everyone's eyes posed a threat to the task group."

The submarine increased speed approaching the cruiser on the port side. It fired a salvo of three torpedoes at 1,400 yards. *Our Falklands War*, by Geoffrey Underwood (Maritime Books, £3.95).

Penlee disaster findings

Coastguard officers cleared

By Craig Seton

Two coastguard officers accused of doing "too little too late" to avert the Penlee lifeboat disaster have been cleared of blame in the report of the public inquiry into the loss of the lifeboat Solomon Browne and the coaster Union Star.

The 20,000 word report, published yesterday, also rejects allegations that Captain Henry Mick Morton, master of the Union Star, and his crew failed to take reasonable steps to save themselves as the 1,400-tonne coaster drifted helplessly towards Cornish cliffs during a storm in December 1981.

The report of the 29-day inquiry says, however, that with the benefit of hindsight it was plain the Solomon Browne should have been launched earlier. It concludes that others "might have acted differently" from Mr Robbie Roberts, the coastguard district controller at Falmouth, but says that his action fell well short of any wrongful act or default.

The report states that a case had not been made out to associate the disaster, which cost 16 lives, with coastguard reorganization, particularly the removal of operational rescue control from the local station at Land's End to the Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre at Plymouth, 25 miles away, and which covered a larger area.

The report recommended joint talks to improve liaison between coastguards and the Royal Naval Lifeboat Institution, especially better phrasing for alerting a lifeboat. It suggested that the Department of Trade should give the

TIMETABLE OF TRAGEDY

- 1804 - Union Star calls Coastguard for first time.
- 1812 - Salvage tug first calls Union Star offering help.
- 1813 - Penlee lifeboat put on standby.
- 1817 - Salvage tug calls.
- 1900 - Direct talks between tug owners and Union Star owners. Tow contract agreed.
- 1918 - Coastguard upgrades message calling ships to assist Union Star.
- 1937 - Rescue helicopter airborne.
- 1950 - Penlee lifeboat requested to launch.
- 1954 - Helicopter in contact with Union Star.
- 2005 - Helicopter attempting to reach survivors.
- 2012 - Penlee lifeboat launched.
- 2044 - Salvage tug on scene - cannot get towline to Union Star.
- 2100 - Union Star 300 yards from cliffs and dragging anchor.
- 2105 - Helicopter and lifeboat both trying to take off survivors.
- 2122 - Lifeboat rescues it has got four survivors. Union Star already in breakers... she capsizes.

coastguard a reserve power which could enable its officers to send help such as a salvage tug to the aid of an unwilling master of a ship in trouble.

The inquiry heard more than a million words of evidence about the tragedy in which eight Cornish lifeboatmen and eight people on board the coaster, including a woman and her two teenage daughters, died.

The report accepted that the Solomon Browne, having rescued four people, was probably crushed to pieces as it went alongside the Union Star again and the coaster capsized on top of it in huge breakers below the cliffs close to Land's End.

Much of the evidence concerned allegations against Mr Roberts, aged 54, who took charge of the rescue operation half an hour after the coaster reported engine failure at 6.04 pm and Mr Colin Sturman, aged 31, the senior watch officer for the earlier period.

They had been accused of failing to appreciate the urgency of the situation, failing to initiate a Mayday after the failure of the master of the Union Star to send out a distress message and failing to ask for the early launch of the Penlee lifeboat.

The report, compiled by Mr Richard Stone, QC, wreck commissioner and chairman of the inquiry, and three assessors, said those allegations had been

correctly withdrawn. "The evidence did not support a finding that either officer had acted with any lack of reasonable care or in breach of his duty."

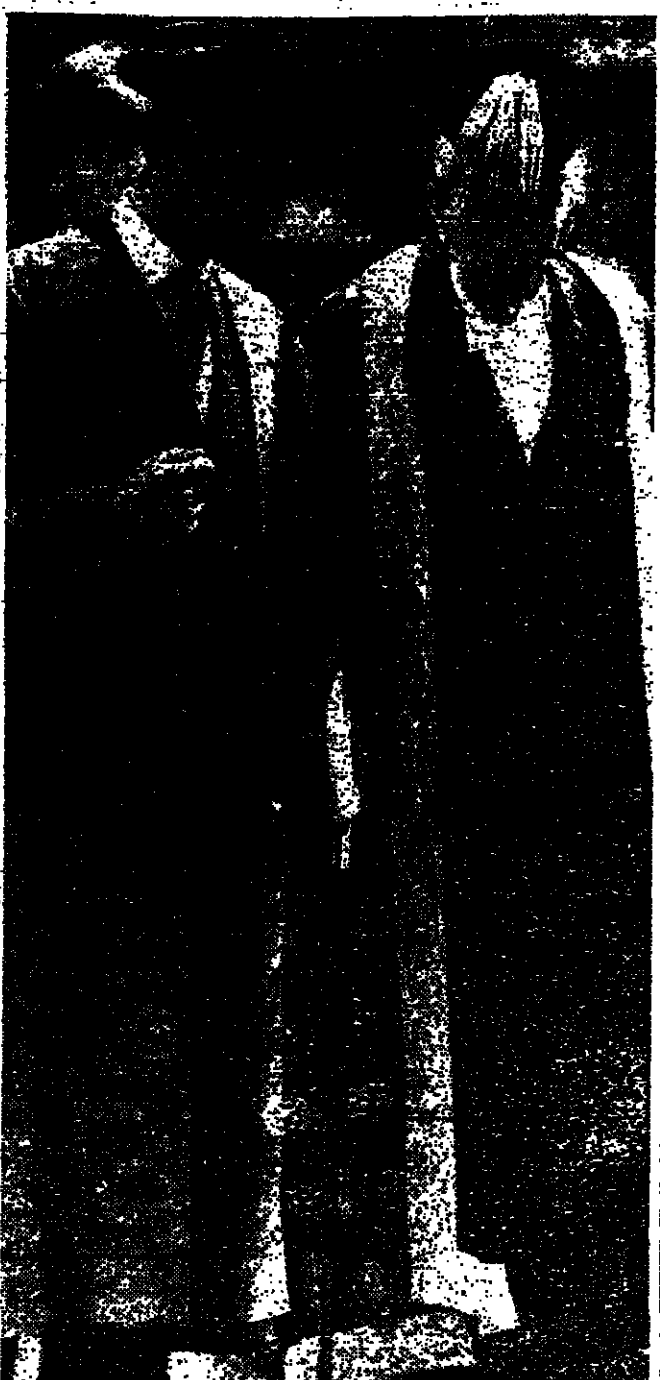
Of Mr Sturman it said he had alerted a rescue helicopter and the lifeboat, put the Union Star in touch with a salvage tug nearby and ensured that radar plots were taken at Gwennap Head, the Lands End coastguard station.

He seems to have asked the right questions at the right time and treated the situation with the degree of urgency appropriate to the information he received. He was a credit to the coastguard service.

Turning to Mr Roberts, the report said: "He applied his judgment to the situation and though others in his position might have acted differently his actions were not careless or without reason and fell well short of any wrongful act or default." But there were restraints placed on him by coastguard regulations.

Of Trevelyan Richards, the coxswain of the Solomon Browne, and his crew of seven the report said: "Their selfless endeavours to save those from the Union Star is an episode in the nation's maritime history which will never be forgotten."

It was important that masters knew that reluctance to declare a distress could lead to delay and jeopardize a successful rescue. It was a primary duty of a ship's master to declare distress and the land station could do so only in exceptional cases.



Academic accolade: The Prince of Wales received a degree in civil law at Oxford University yesterday and in his speech of acceptance, praised the Chancellor, Mr Harold Macmillan, who is in his 90th year.

"I have been fortunate enough to sit at your feet, as it were, and to listen, spellbound, to the way in which you describe events and people in terms of their historical perspective", he said.

Society, violence and the judiciary

Judge 'hounded to grave by media'

By Our Legal Affairs Correspondent

The independence of the judiciary was threatened by political pressures of government and "hounding" by the media, Lord Haleham of St Marylebone said last night.

He said he knew of a High Court judge who "would be alive today had he not been subjected to a torrent of abuse excited by the media against a decision" altered on appeal but endorsed in principle.

"I am not the only one who holds the belief that this sensitive man was, almost literally, hounded by the media to his grave", he said.

Lord Haleham added that although he could not prove it, he knew of "two members of the higher judiciary whose career prospects were substantially delayed by reason of directly political considerations."

The Lord Chancellor, giving the third in the 1983 Hamlyn series of lectures in London, also issued a warning about the use of judges by governments to head public inquiries, charged with political sensitivity and where the inquisitorial method was alien to judges' experience.

After instancing Lord Scarman's inquiry into the Brixton riots, Lord Haleham said judges were not to be blamed for accepting commissions to head such inquiries, but the media, public opinion, politicians and lord chancellors, including himself, were "possibly to be criticized for asking judges to perform tasks for which their training does not render them particularly suitable" and which potentially interferes with their ordinary work and adds a political flavour to their reputation.

Return to Victorian morality urged

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A plea for return to Victorian morality with its social sanctions to combat crime and violence was made by Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, yesterday.

"No one gives a fig for the Ten Commandments any more, but unhappily society disregards them at its peril," he told the annual meeting of the National Association of Prison Visitors in London.

At the risk of being labelled fuddy duddies he said, people must begin by stopping the display of violence and sex on television and the importation of hard-core pornography which benefited no one but the purveyors.

Figures for armed robbery were likely soon to go down because those involved would find far more profit in the importation of heroin, which in turn would mean more crime, he said.

"We must start trying to get back a little way towards what your critics call Victorian morality. If we don't, it will go on getting worse."

Lord Lane said people tended to wash their hands of responsibility in the tackling of crime, leaving it to judges, probation staff and the prison service and the old social sanctions had disappeared.

The sanction of parental authority had gone, discipline



Lord Lane: 'Ban pornography' in schools had gone and the authority of the schoolmaster was undermined.

Financial sanctions had also gone and, while not wishing a return to pre welfare state days, Lord Lane said there was no doubt any potential criminal would then think a long time before consigning his wife and children to the workhouse.

The big cities also meant social sanctions had disappeared. People did not know their neighbours and even if they did, it was a matter of total indifference whether or not he was convicted of a crime.

'Stand up to soccer thugs'

The establishment was urged by Judge Argyle, QC, at the Central Criminal Court yesterday to take a positive stand against football hooliganism.

The judge, who is a keen sportsman, made his remarks as he jailed three young football fans and sent another to a detention centre for their part in a soccer rampage in which a man died.

There had been "an appalling atmosphere of violence and terror - with foul language,

excess alcohol and urinating in public", he said.

He made an order under the Contempt of Court Act forbidding the naming of the defendants and the match involved, or giving its date because forthcoming trials of rival supporters and a retrial of another fan might be prejudiced.

The judge later told the press that the victim, Mr John Dickinson, aged 24, of Wyvel Road, Vauxhall, south London, could be named.

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Mr Stone yesterday: Call for liaison

Mr Sturman: "Credit to coastguard"

Shoot-out on Argentine highway revives fears of new 'dirty war'

From Andrew Thompson, Buenos Aires

An announcement by Argentine police that two men were killed in a shoot-out last Saturday has been met with incredulity and protest by the country's political parties and human rights organizations. There are growing fears that the cycle of violence known as the "dirty war" in the 1970s is beginning again.

According to the Buenos Aires provincial police force, Señor Osvaldo Augustin Cambiaso and Señor Eduardo Daniel Pereira Rossi, driving a car on the Pan American Highway outside Buenos Aires, tried to escape when challenged by a routine patrol. They were chased and, when cornered, opened fire. In the subsequent gun fight, both were killed.

The police claim that Señor Cambiaso had a record of left-wing activism and had been in prison. Señor Pereira was described as a member of the Montoneros guerrilla organization.

This version of events has been rejected by most political parties and human rights groups. Señor Cambiaso and another unidentified man had been kidnapped on Saturday morning in Rosario, in the nearby province of Santa Fe. His family, and witnesses, said that heavily-armed men in civilian clothes, driving a green station wagon without number plates, had seized both men in a coffee house in Rosario.

After news of the abduction, a campaign was launched to save Señor Cambiaso's life. The family of the kidnapped man, a left-wing Peronist, filed a habeas corpus writ. Newspapers covered the incident, giving it front-page treatment.

On Monday President Rey-

naldo Bignone, questioned by journalists, said: "I can guarantee that the security services are not involved in this matter." But the statement by the Buenos Aires police force on Tuesday, giving the time of the shoot-out as Saturday afternoon, showed it had occurred two days before the President's statements.

Among the other contradictory aspects of the affair, is the fact that the habeas corpus petition was turned down on Tuesday, for lack of information, almost at the same time as the police were issuing their version of events.

Señor Vicente Leonidas Saadi, leader of the left-wing Peronist grouping known as Intransigencia and Mobilización, said on Tuesday night that "it was not a shoot-out. This is a straightforward assassination". Señor Saadi and other political and human rights leaders tried to express their protest to officials at the Interior Ministry late on Tuesday night, but were not granted an audience.

At an improvised press conference, they said both men "were kidnapped on Saturday in Rosario by members of the Army, and were shot dead immediately. Later, they took the bodies to Buenos Aires province. They were taken so as to fake a shoot-out, to escape responsibility for the killings. The bodies were under the control of an officer from the Tigre regional police force whose surname in Alcantara, and a sub-officer known as Parry. Both these men now appear to be under arrest."

The Argentine Permanent Human Rights Assembly said: "This was murder, carried out by paramilitary or paramilitary groups".

The human rights groups and political parties have called on all those who wish to express their protest at the death of Señor Cambiaso to join a demonstration tomorrow, called by the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo to protest about human rights violation.

France condemns Chile

Paris (Reuters) - France yesterday recalled its Ambassador to Chile and condemned what it termed violations of human rights after demonstrations there against the right-wing military leadership of President Augusto Pinochet.

M. Claude Cheysson, the External Relations Minister, told the National Assembly that M. Leon Bouvier, the ambassador, had been recalled to Paris.

M. Cheysson was quoted by French radio as saying: "General Pinochet is a curse on his people". Earlier, an official spokesman said that the French Government was outraged by events in Chile.

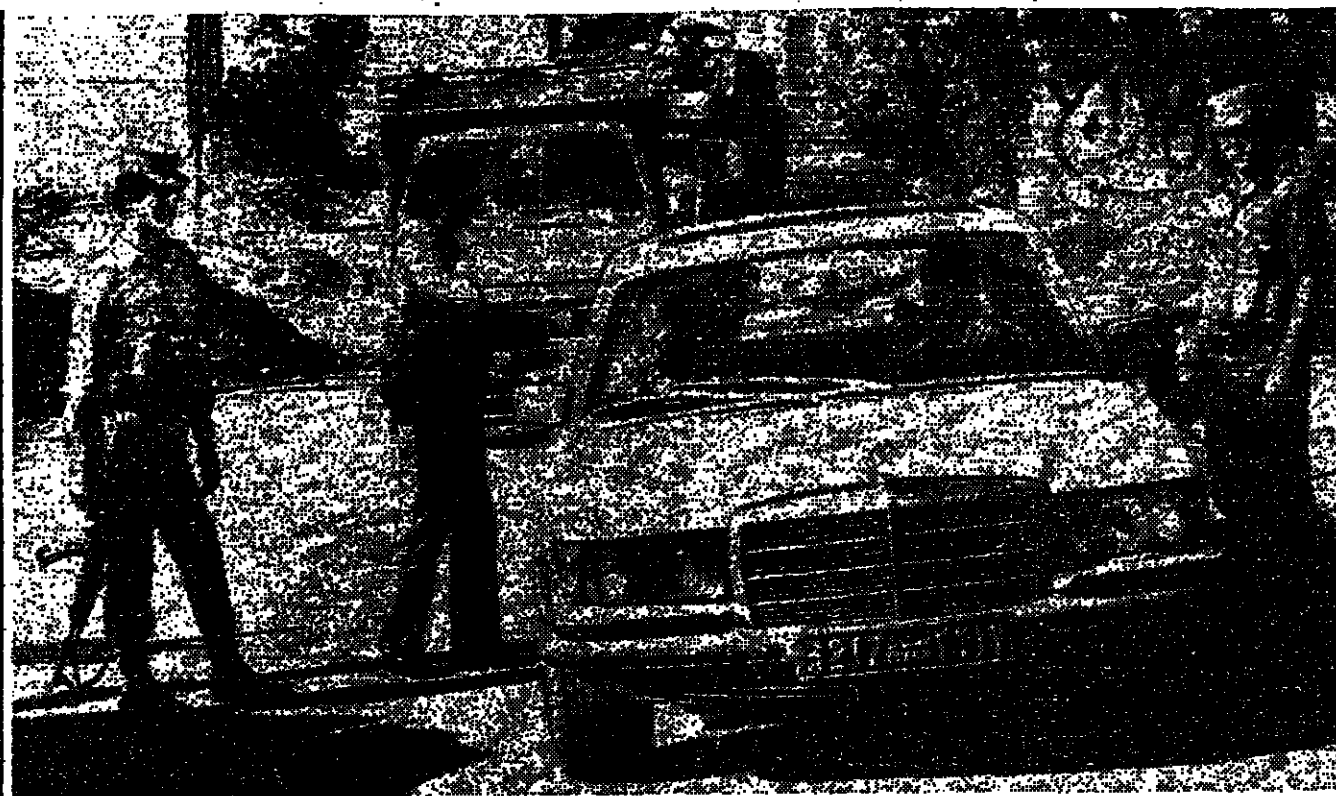
Chilean soldiers and police arrested more than 300 people last week after demonstrations which analysts have seen as the most serious anti-government protest in 10 years of military rule by General Pinochet. At least two youths were shot dead during protests.

Last year France suspended delivery of 29 tanks because of an embargo on arms exports to Chile.

Earlier, an official spokesman said that the French Government was outraged by events in Chile.

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New barrier: Syrian soldiers check one of the few cars allowed to leave the Bekaa Valley for Beirut.

Reagan believes Syrians will pull out

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

President Reagan believes that Moscow is possibly putting pressure on the Syrians to keep their troops in Lebanon, but he thinks Syria will eventually agree to withdraw them.

The President took a cautiously optimistic view of the Lebanon situation at his press conference on Tuesday night, a few hours after Lebanon and Israel signed their agreement on the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon.

Asked what reason he had to be optimistic about a Syrian withdrawal Mr Reagan recalled that when the Israeli forces left there, too, would leave Lebanon.

He added: "Now I grant you they're saying some different things to day. But I also know that a number of their Arab allies are urging them to stick with their word and to leave when all forces are prepared to leave."

"And I can't believe that the Syrians want to find themselves alone separated from all of their Arab allies."

Asked if the US was willing to offer the

Soviet Union a role in negotiating a Syrian withdrawal, the President said: "I don't think that the negotiations should include inviting the Soviet Union into the Middle East."

"I don't see what reason they have to be there, and possibly there is pressure on the Syrians coming from the Soviets, who now have several thousand of their military forces in there in addition to the missiles and so forth."

American officials have estimated that there are about 5,000 Soviet personnel in Syria, mainly helping air defence systems and manning two Soviet Sam 5 missile sites, one near Homs and the other near Damascus.

The State Department has repeatedly said that the introduction of Sam 5 missiles and other weapons systems into Syria and their manning by Soviet personnel was "a destabilizing and unhelpful development."

Mr Nicholas Velocita, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, said a few hours before the President's

press conference that Mr Philip Habib, Mr Reagan's special envoy, was returning to the Middle East hoping to "stimulate some progress in the near future with respect to Syrian and PLO willingness to withdraw."

AMMAN: Arabs in the West Bank, officially still part of Jordan, yesterday faced prosecution - and a threat of administrative measures if they failed to conform with new Jordanian travel curbs, Reuters reports.

The Jordanian Ministry of the interior said the Arabs were banned from leaving the West Bank except through two bridges on the Jordan River. They are King Hussein's Bridge (formerly Allenby) and Prince Mohammad's Bridge (formerly Damiah).

The move appeared to prevent Arabs from using Israeli or Israeli-held airports or crossing points between Israel and Egypt and Israel and Lebanon on leaving the occupied territories.

The measures were designed to counter Israeli attempts to drive out Arabs

Pilot killed by gust after safe golf course landing

From Our Correspondent, Johannesburg

The British pilot of a light aircraft who had made a forced landing on the sixteenth fairway of his local golf course after he ran out of fuel, was killed yesterday when he crashed taking off onto the seventeenth.

Mr Joseph Higham, aged 37, from Huddersfield, was taking off from the Kensington Golf Course, Johannesburg. His wife, Gwendolin, seven

months pregnant, watched in horror as the Piper was caught by a gust of wind as it lifted off the sixteenth fairway, flipped over and nose-dived into the seventeenth.

Mr Higham, who emigrated to South Africa in 1975, played on the course near his home, which was why he chose the sixteenth fairway, the longest, for his landing on Tuesday.

President expects MX cash approval soon

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

President Reagan expects swift approval by Congress of his request for funds for the development and testing of the controversial MX intercontinental ballistic missile.

Addressing a White House press conference this week he said in an opening statement: "I look forward to prompt approval of this vital programme by the full House and Senate." A bipartisan consensus in Congress favouring the 10-warhead missile would show the Soviet Union that "we

Americans stand united, ready to negotiate in good faith until we succeed in reducing the level of nuclear weapons on both sides," he said.

The President was speaking shortly after the House appropriations committee had voted by 30-26 in favour of a resolution that would free \$625 (£403m) for the development of the missile. The funds had been blocked since the end of last year.

The vote, which followed a massive lobbying campaign by

the administration, gave the President his third MX victory in a week. The matter goes to the floor of the Senate and the House next week where approval seems likely, but is still by no means assured.

The outcome is particularly important for the administration as it will set the tone for a new congressional debate in the coming weeks on whether to allocate \$6,000m for the actual procurement of the first operational missiles during the 1984 financial year.

Mr Nicholas Velocita, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, said a few hours before the President's

The shift in mood in Congress in favour of the MX follows a series of letters which President Reagan sent to key senators and representatives last week promising to alter his negotiating position in arms talks with the Soviet Union. At his press conference the President said he was gratified that a bipartisan consensus on arms control was emerging from last month's recommendations by a Presidential commission headed by retired general Brent Scowcroft.

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Squabbling Nato 'near to collapse'

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

A warning that internal squabbles could lead Nato to the point of collapse comes today from the International Institute for Strategic Studies. It says in its Strategic Survey 1982-83 that this year looks like being crucial.

Controversy over the deployment of cruise and Pershing 2 missiles, economic protectionism, last year's split over the Soviet pipeline and anti-Americanism in Western Europe are among the causes of Nato's troubles.

Grievances have been accumulated for years, at least since the days of President Carter, but now need redressing before next year's election in Washington imposes new strains.

The alternative is a drift towards "fundamental change" in the alliance and much will depend upon the Reagan Administration and its efforts to heal the rifts.

The Warsaw Pact has been passing through a difficult period too, perhaps fortunately for Nato, with the Polish crisis proving its worst problem.

"After the past two years of concern with internal affairs, the Warsaw Pact does not look to be ready for a new leadership. It is neither confronted by a desperate situation nor offered a unique opportunity by weakness in the West. The probability of military action against Western Europe remains small," the report says.

But there is also "deep concern" over the slow progress towards an agreement in the Geneva arms talks, just resuming after a two month recess.

"Muddle-through" rather than breakthrough has so far characterized the negotiations and the prospects now look even more "challenging".

Protest march in Paris

Social unrest may block fresh dose of austerity

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The latest increase in the price index of 1.4 per cent for April means that the French Government will almost certainly have to take further austerity measures if it is to achieve its 8 per cent inflation target by the end of the year.

But the Government is reluctant to introduce further measures for fear that they will exacerbate the simmering social unrest.

Prices have risen by 3.9 per cent in the first four months of this year, or at an annual rate of 11.7 per cent. That means that prices could only rise by an average of 0.5 per cent a month for the next eight months if the Government is to achieve its 8 per cent target. M. Jacques Delors, the Finance Minister, insisted yesterday that it still intended to do so.

The Government feels that it must continue to reassure public opinion, and the unions in particular, about the firmness of its economic objectives, despite any doubts it might have in private. M. Delors has ruled out any question of a new price or wage freeze, but there is talk among senior officials about the possibility of further tax increases.

Thousands of workers belonging to the independent Force Ouvrière, one of the three biggest union federations, took to the streets in Paris yesterday to protest against the Government's austerity measures, which tens of thousands of others throughout the country heeded their union's call for a "national strike of at least one hour".

A poll to be published in today's *Paris Match* magazine shows that nearly half the French people believe that the individual protest movements of groups like the farmers, students, doctors and shopkeepers are likely to develop into a national protest movement, while only 37 per cent thought the contrary, and the rest were undecided.

Various ministers, including M. Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, and Socialist Party leaders, have suggested that extreme right-wing agitators have been behind some of the demonstrations, particularly those involving students, which have so often ended up in pitched battles with the police.

That has prompted some right-wing politicians and commentators to deride the Government's fear of a "plot" - though that word was never actually used by ministers - as simply an excuse to cover up the very real grievances and



M. Franceschi: Full confidence in police.

discontent of a wide variety of social groups.

About 1,000 students protested in Paris yesterday against alleged police brutality against demonstrators. Politicians of the right and left have also expressed concern about the excessive violence used by police to break up some demonstrations. There have been several incidents in which innocent bystanders and journalists were brutally clubbed over the head by riot police.

M. Joseph Franceschi, the Minister for State Security, said in Parliament yesterday that the Government was firmly attached to the fundamental right of people to demonstrate in the streets and for that reason, despite the possibility of disorder, had never sought to ban demonstrations.

"But this right must respect other rights, in particular the right to protection of individuals and their belongings. Public order must be assured in all circumstances with firmness and discretion," he said.

Faced with those constraints, he believed that the forces of law and order had behaved with calmness and serenity. They were in no way to blame for the outbursts of violence at the end of demonstrations, he insisted. The police had "his complete confidence and respect".

University students announced yesterday that they intended to keep up their pressure on the Government to change its Bill for the reform of higher education.

Medical students, who have voted in favour of the acceptance of Government compromise measures on the reform of medical education, have postponed a decision until Friday on whether to call off their strike.

There were only sporadic demonstrations by farmers yesterday, who are demanding a ban on foreign agricultural imports and the abolition of the EEC system of monetary compensation which acts as a tax on French agricultural exports.

Newspaper savages Walesa

Warsaw (Reuters) - The Polish government newspaper *Rzeczpospolita* said Mr Lech Walesa, the Solidarity leader, was totally discredited by his recent actions and there was no role for him to play in public life.

The article said he had linked himself with militant extremists aiming to overthrow the communist system.

A Solidarity bulletin in Warsaw said that Mr Andrzej Sobieraj, chairman of the Solidarity branch in Radom, was arrested after unofficial May Day demonstrations.

Kenya travel bar on diplomats

Nairobi (Reuters) - All foreign diplomats accredited to Kenya will need clearance from the President's office from now on before being allowed to travel to rural areas, the *Daily Nation* newspaper said.

The decision was taken by the governing council of the ruling Kenya African National Union after charges by President Moi that foreign countries were grooming someone to succeed him.

Sakharov says 'yes' to Oslo

Oslo (AFP) - Mr Andrei Sakharov, the Soviet dissident and Nobel peace prize winner, has accepted Norway's invitation to settle there with his family, Mr Svein Stray, the Norwegian Foreign Minister, told Parliament.

In Stockholm, 140 of 349 MPs sent messages to Mr Andropov, the Soviet leader, urging Mr Sakharov's release and inviting him to Sweden, and in Washington President Reagan proclaimed May 21 as national Andrei Sakharov Day.

Seoul protest

Seoul - Mr Kim Young Sam, the former South Korean opposition leader, under house arrest since last June said yesterday he was beginning a hunger strike in protest at the lack of democracy under the Government of President Chun Doo Hwan.

Aide resigns

Rangoon (Reuters) - Brigadier-General Tin Oo, known in Burma as the right-hand man of General Ne Win, resigned from his parliamentary posts yesterday, but the announcement made no reference to his powerful position as Joint Secretary of the Burma Socialist Programme Party.

Rival rallies

Noumea (Reuters) - Opponents and supporters of French rule over the Pacific territory of New Caledonia staged rival demonstrations as M. Georges Lemoine, French Junior Minister for Overseas Territories, arrived for a visit. About 30,000 marched in support of the French and 5,000 for independence.

Mugabe tour

Budapest (AP) - Mr Robert Mugabe, Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, arrived here for an official visit on the first stage of an East European tour, with stops planned in Czechoslovakia and East Germany.

Editor freed

Valletta - Mr Tony Mallia, editor of the Nationalist Party's press in Malta, was released by police after being held for 24 hours in connection with his interview with Dr Eddie Fenech-Adami, the Nationalist leader.

Correction

Brigadier-General Amos Yaron, of Israel, is not the most senior general, as reported on May 17.

"We had a new product and a lot of faith."



We put both in Radio Times.

Stephen Wilson, Technics Organ Division Manager.

"Selling electronic keyboards might be thought an easy matter," Stephen Wilson told us. "You simply take ads in the trade press and leave the rest to your dealers. At least, that's what the trade has been doing for years."

"But in 1979, when Technics went into the market, we questioned this approach. We put the problem to our creative consultancy, Lippa, Newton, Nokes Limited, and our media buyers, The Media Business."

"We decided we wanted to attack not only the existing market, but to expand the market. We agreed to concentrate our modest advertising budget in one mass-circulation publication."

"We chose Radio Times for various reasons. For a start, you've over nine million readers" (9.2 million, we prompted.)

"You've 12 regional editions which meant we could run lists of local dealers names. Then there's the fact that, as you publish on Thursdays, you're home nine days."

"This was important. Organs are a considered purchase, not a petty-cash item. We wanted our ads to be read and re-read."

"We started off with black-and-white half-page ads in your London and South editions. The response was good, very good."

"So much so we took a whole-page colour in 1980. And again the response was good."

"In 1981 we took two colour pages, plus half-pages in black-and-white to list our dealers. The response was terrific. Then came 1982. And we found ourselves with our new memory-pack keyboard. This product, as the man who invented the wheel said, was revolutionary. We took a three-page colour ad in Radio Times in November. From then on every day was Christmas. In fact the result turned into a bit of a pain. We were cleaned out of our winter stock and most of our spring allocation. There we stood, thanks to Radio Times, in the middle of a world recession, with our organs going boom, boom, boom."

RadioTimes

For further information, contact Head of Advertisement Department, BBC Publications, 33 Marylebone High Street, London W1M 4AA. Telephone: 01-580 5577. Source: NRS (BC/NARS) July-December 1982.

ASSOCIATED BRITISH FOODS plc

Notice is hereby given of the appointment of Lloyds Bank Plc as Registrar

All documents for registration and correspondence should in future be sent to the address below.

T. H. M. SHAW, LL.B.
DIRECTOR & SECRETARY



Lloyds Bank Plc,
Registrar's Department,
Goring-by-Sea,
Worthing, West Sussex BN12 6DA.
Telephone: Worthing 502541
(STD code 0903)

Lloyds Bank Plc

Sudan puts down mutiny of southern troops and blames foreign contacts

Khartoum (Reuters)—The Sudanese Army has put down a mutiny among troops in Southern Sudan, the Army Command said yesterday. The mutiny broke out last Sunday in a battalion of the First Division of the Southern Region. It gave no immediate details of casualties.

Signs of unrest have recently re-emerged in Southern Sudan after several years of quiet. The South fought a 17-year civil war until 1972 against the rule of the north.

Army announcement said: Signs of indiscipline were noticed among the battalions in the past few months in addition to remarkable financial irregularities.

"But we resorted to wisdom and tolerance and tried to tackle the situation with an authentic national spirit aimed at preserving the integrity and security of the country."

The announcement said the troops' behaviour was because of "foreign contacts and instigations." The authorities had watched closely until the situation in a company of the disbanded battalion "reached the stage of disobeying orders," the statement said.

"When decisive measures became imperative in order to maintain the unity of the country and discipline and prestige of the armed forces the Army staged successful military operations on positions of the

company in Bor and Fabor in Jonglei province."

The army captured huge amounts of arms and ammunition in Bor, the statement said.

The captured arms were from abroad. This indicated that something was being plotted against Sudan's unity and security as part of a hostile criminal act against the Sudan.

The announcement did not identify the source of arms or the foreign contacts. Sudan has repeatedly accused Libya of trying to sow unrest in the Southern Region.

Last February, President Nimeiry accused Libya of plotting to parachute insurgents into Khartoum to overthrow the Government.



Clerks seek Catalan control over failed bank

From Richard Wigg Madrid

More than 1,500 employees of the Banco Catalana, the ailing regional banking group, demonstrated yesterday outside the Prime Minister's office here against the decision to sell it to a consortium of Madrid-based private banks.

As the Cabinet was holding its regular meeting the protesters handed in a petition demanding that the Banca Catalana, with acknowledged losses of £817m last year, should be nationalized, or at least kept under Catalan control.

The leader of the bank employees' Socialist trade union accused the Gonzalez Government of "lacking the courage" to confront Spain's biggest private banks.

The Economics Minister of the region's autonomous government backed the demand for a Catalan solution. He complained that the Bank of Spain had opted for a simple technical way out, ignoring the political implications.

Acting swiftly to stifle growing demands for nationalization, the Bank of Spain had on Tuesday night approved the sale to the consortium. The stricken Banco Catalana has only been kept going since last autumn by the intervention of the Bank of Spain's deposit guarantees fund, jointly financed by the Exchequer and the private banks.

Curfew imposed in Upper Volta

Abidjan, Ivory Coast (Reuters)—Upper Volta's military Government has clamped a dusk to dawn curfew on the country after President Jean-Baptiste Ouédraogo's apparent move against radical elements in his ruling People's Salvation Council (CSP), diplomatic sources said.

Volta daily *L'Observateur* said yesterday that both he and Major Jean-Baptiste Lingani, another prominent left-winger, were detained at dawn on Tuesday along with other military leaders.

Diplomatic sources in Ouagadougou, the capital said Major Ouédraogo's future hinged on the attitude of paratrooper regiment stationed at Debougou, 125 miles west of the capital, where Captain Sankara, a paratrooper, remains very popular.

Contacted by telephone they

said that they were not surprised by Major Ouédraogo's move against CSP members whom he accused of being demagogues and of acting irresponsibly.

● **OUAGADOUGOU:** The Upper Volta capital was calm yesterday and tanks had withdrawn from the streets one day after the "purge" of the council, AFP reports.

The Volta population had returned to work, and the tanks which were stationed near the Prime Minister's residence had left the area.

Anti-war youths disrupt Bundestag

Security men taking firm action in Bonn yesterday against a group of youths who burst into the West German Bundestag, threw paint and raised anti-war banners. They also stormed the Speaker's rostrum in the Lower House as deputies were taking part in a special session, Reuters reports.

Officials dragged away about 25 young people involved in the demonstration after they had thrown bags of red paint at the giant symbolic eagle behind the Speaker's podium and chanted slogans.

The protesters were among some 500 young people invited by President Carstens and the political parties to

attend a special "youth question-time". They unfurled banners saying "End fascism" and "No more war" and scattered leaflets demanding "Freedom for Mao".

After the demonstrators had been removed, Herr Rainer Barzel, the Bundestag Speaker, called them vandals.

Britain shows interest in Greek frigates order

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Greece wants four new frigates for its navy, with an option for another three, and British Shipbuilders has shown strong interest in the project.

Each frigate would cost about £130m to build. Equipment and accessories, as well as training of personnel could raise the total outlay for the four warships to £1,000m.

Sources said the Greek Government wants the ships to be built under licence at Hellenic Shipyards, near Piraeus, which are owned by Mr Stavros Niarchos, the ship owner. Greece recently bought two frigates from The Netherlands.

Hellenic Shipyards gained substantial experience by building six of the Greek Navy's 12 Combatant missile boats under French licence.

Plans for the latest project come as Greece and Britain are negotiating a memorandum of understanding on cooperation in the arms industry.

Mr Geoffrey Pattie, Minister of State for Defence Procurement, said the British Government was interested in the project.

Mr Pattie, who saw Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Prime Minister and Minister of Defence, told *The Times* he felt encouraged that the Tornado, which is competing against the American F16 and F18 as well as the French Mirage 2000, had very real chances of being selected.

The Greeks had apparently appreciated the Tornado's role as a deterrent, in view of its capability for deep penetration, but also the value of the deal offered and the partnership proposed by Panavia, the British-German-Italian consortium that manufactures the aircraft.

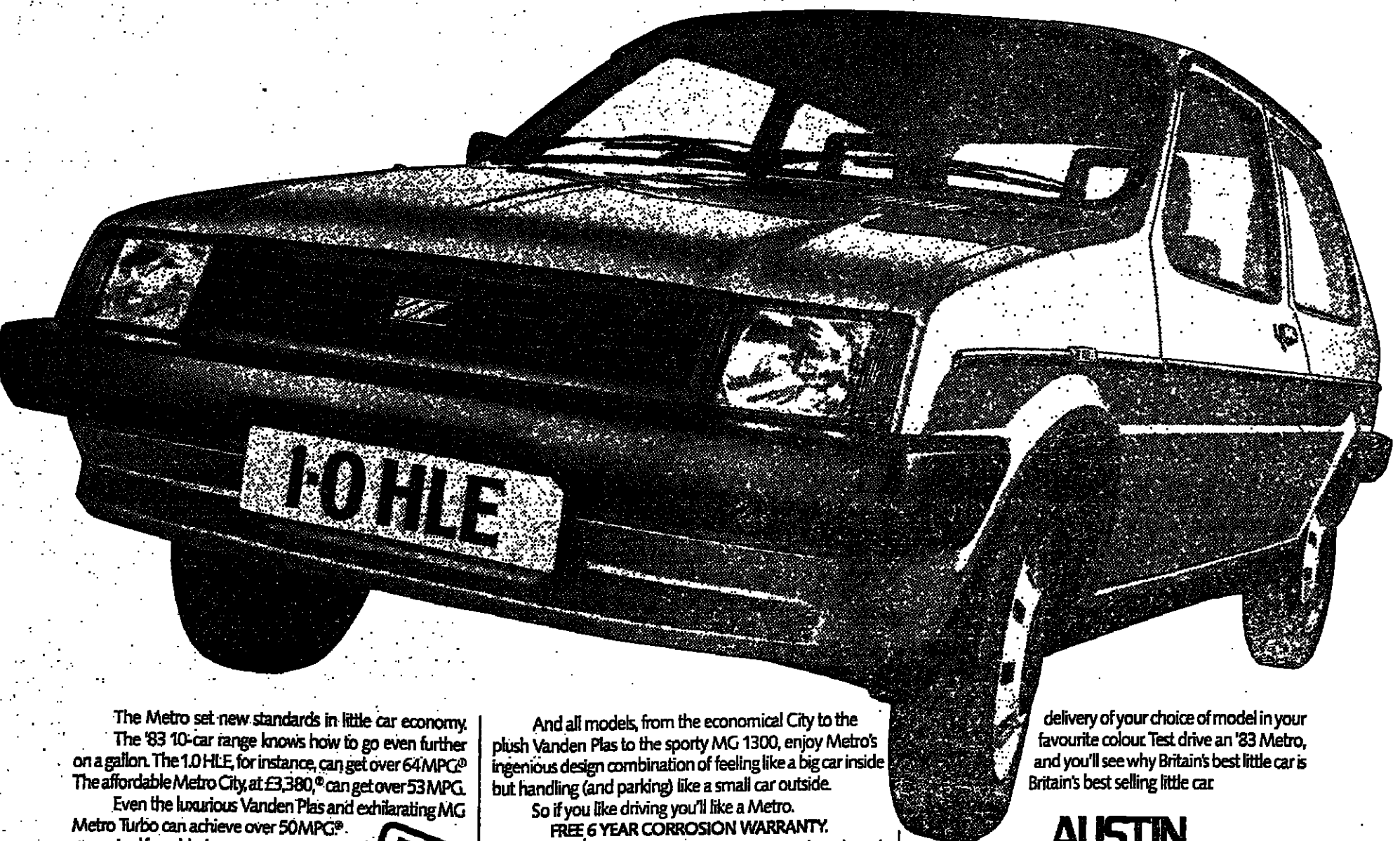
Britain feels it has not had its fair share of Greek defence contracts since the restoration of democracy, despite its refusal, unlike other countries, to sell arms to the colonels.

Mr Pattie, after his talks with Greek officials, believes that Greece will make its choice within a month and will probably opt in favour of a 50-50 American-European mix. He wanted to make sure that the European choice was the Tornado.

AUSTIN ROVER



BRITAIN'S BEST LITTLE CAR GOES A LOT FURTHER: 64.1 MPG.



Relics of Imperial India European accents in the gentlemen's club

From Michael Hamlyn, Madras

There are dotted about India some striking relics of its imperial past. One such is the statue of Queen Victoria which still stands here in Madras. Most such statues disappeared very early on in a fit of post-independence fervour.

In Delhi for instance the statue of King George V which used to stand under a canopy by the India Gate was removed early on. It was to be replaced, everyone agreed, with a statue of Mahatma Gandhi, but no one could agree whether he should be depicted standing or sitting, so the plinth is still vacant.

Another survival is the gentlemen's club. There is a well-known one at Ootacamund, where long ago they invented snooker. At the Madras Club they invented Mulligatawny soup. The Madras Club still stands though it crumbles a trifle. There are terraces overlooking the splendidly colonial roof beams, and it has suffered a few changes. Essentially, however, it is the same.

The membership has been allowed to increase from 200 to 225. The past of the visitors' book signed by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh has had to be taken away for renovation after some tearways vandalized it. One of the most significant changes, perhaps, occurred when the committee decided to replace the *Daily Telegraph*, which each day was fixed to a Victorian lectern on the porch, with the *International Herald Tribune*.

By far the largest proportion of the members now are of course Indians but still most people making use of it are expatriate Europeans. The German accent is often heard

at dinner and some of the English accents have Scandinavian "flavour". The Russian Consul General is not a member. "Though we'd be delighted to have him" said one.

The club walls are still decorated with original sketches by the Daniels - father and son - who travelled the subcontinent after Victoria became Empress of India. They created the images by which her British subjects became familiar with her new domain.

There are no women members though women may become associate members.

As the sun goes down and the Southern Cross hangs low in the night sky, the members can gather on the verandah, a fan stirring the humid air, and retrace the 150-year history of their establishment.

As they sip their gin or fresh lime juice they tell of the various eccentricities of their older members, like the one who bred snakes at home until his landlord tried to have him evicted for keeping venomous animals; or the strange mischance that had a seventeenth-century Englishman called Sir Francis Day fall in love with a Portuguese girl from the trading post of San Thome.

Day decided to put his own trading post on a headland near by, fortify it and call it Fort St George. He did not appear to mind that there was very little natural water available.

Fort St George developed into Madras. The water did not get much more abundant, and the splendid lawn that leads down to the polluted green stream bordering the grounds of the club is brown and brackish.

The Metro set new standards in little car economy. The '83 10-car range knows how to go even further on a gallon. The 1.0 HLE, for instance, can get over 64MPG. The affordable Metro City, at £3,380, can get over 53MPG.

Even the luxurious Vanden Plas and exhilarating MG Metro Turbo can achieve over 50MPG.

And for added economy most Metro models go 12,000 miles between services. EVEN BETTER SPECIFICATION. The '83 Austin Metros all come with newly designed front seats and side window demisters. Most models have a remote control driver's door mirror, opening rear quarter lights and a thoughtful loadspace lamp.

All are available with Metrosurance, comprehensive insurance cover from as little as £55.

And all models, from the economical City to the plush Vanden Plas to the sporty MG 1300, enjoy Metro's ingenious design combination of feeling like a big car inside but handling (and parking) like a small car outside.

So if you like driving you'll like a Metro. FREE 6 YEAR CORROSION WARRANTY. When you buy a Metro you're protecting your investment.

First with Supershield, our new corrosion warranty. It lasts for 6 full years and its free. Then with Supercover, the most comprehensive first year warranty scheme of any manufacturer.

And last, but not least, with Metro's high resale value. BRITAIN'S BEST SELLING LITTLE CAR. Your Austin Rover dealer can arrange immediate

delivery of your choice of model in your favourite colour. Test drive an '83 Metro, and you'll see why Britain's best little car is Britain's best selling little car.

AUSTIN METRO

FROM £3,380
DRIVING IS BELIEVING

Official D.O.C.T. Figures: Metro 1.0HLE Urban Cycle 46.4MPG (6.1l per 100km); Constant 56MPH 64.1MPG (4.4l per 100km); Constant 75MPH 45.3MPG (6.2l per 100km). Price quoted is for Metro City model illustrated as Metro 1.0HLE at £4,396. Prices correct at time of going to press, excluding dealer plates and delivery. Metallic paint optional at extra cost. 8 Metro City Urban Cycle 40.7MPG (8.5l per 100km); Constant 56MPH 53.2MPG (5.8l per 100km); Constant 75MPH 32.9MPG (8.4l per 100km). Metro MG Turbo Urban Cycle 24.6MPG (8.2l per 100km); Constant 56MPH 50.3MPG (5.6l per 100km); Constant 75MPH 35.1MPG (6.0l per 100km). 4-Or one full year, whichever comes first (except automatic and turbocharged models). 4-Subject to model, age, no claims bonus and locality.

Apology for faked Hitler diaries

Stern editor takes blame

From Michael Binyon, Hamburg

Herr Henri Nannen, founder and editor-in-chief of *Stern*, apologizes today to the magazine's 1,600,000 readers for what has been called the worst scandal in journalistic history, which he blamed in a leading article on the "psycho-thriller" atmosphere which led the management to publish the forged Hitler diaries.

"As critical journalists we should have done more," he says, adding that there was no pardon for *Stern* starting publication without discovering the sources from which its reporter, Herr Gerd Heidemann, received the forged material.

The apology - *mea culpa, mea maxima culpa* as he puts it in his leading article - has not been accepted by *Stern's*

journalists, who again yesterday held mass protest meetings to press their demands for Herr Nannen's resignation, together with that of Herr Gerd Heidemann, chairman of *Stern's* publishers, Gruner and Jahr.

Negotiations continued most of yesterday between the representatives of the 200 embittered editorial staff and the Gruner and Jahr board, including Herr Nannen and Herr Heidemann. But, in spite of hints that the management was ready for a compromise, positions seemed to have hardened.

The management, backed by the personal intervention of Herr Reinhard Mohr, head of Bertelsmann, the parent company, were adamant they would not retract the appointments of

two new editors, Herr Peter Scholl-Latour and Herr Johannes Gross, nor dismiss Herr Nannen and Herr Heidemann.

Herr Rolf Gillehansen, the only one of the three editors at the time of publication of the forgeries who was not involved and did not resign has applied for an injunction in a Hamburg court against Gruner and Jahr to prevent the new editors taking up their posts.

Herr Gross was due to have begun work yesterday, but a spokesman for the journalists, who are continuing their symbolic occupation of the *Stern* building, said he had not seen him anywhere.

The journalists are still working normally, and say they

will not go on strike, as they do not want to damage *Stern* any further, but rather would like to bring it back to its former influential position. A strike in any case is at present illegal under West German labour law. The continuous mass meetings, however, will probably lead to a much reduced edition next week.

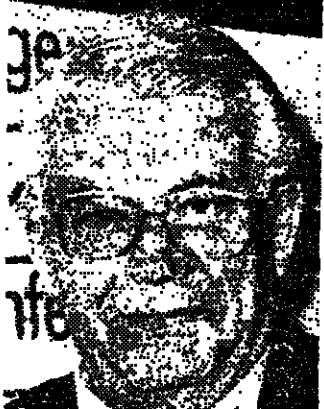
In today's issue, Herr Nannen admits the editorial staff were kept in complete ignorance of the magazine's involvement in buying the forgeries, and blames the "bungler mentality" of those at the top who did not want the secret out.

He says the entire top management convinced themselves the diaries were genuine by a process of auto-suggestion: "We all suffered from group psychosis".

Tough language has been used at the journalists' protest meetings. On Monday to Herr Heidemann, Herr Nannen said: "You are not only a bungler, but you have damaged the magazine".

Herr Heidemann both at the meeting and in his leading article for the deception. He said he was dismissed on the spot because he was a *schmuck* who had to be got rid of in a spectacular way.

Many *Stern* staff were also angry yesterday at the news that the two editors who resigned over the "diaries" affair, Herr Peter Koch and Herr Felix Schmidt, each received DM3m (£790,000) in compensation.



Herr Nannen: Journalists say he must resign.



Herr Scholl-Latour: Backing from parent company.



Herr Gross: Not seen since his appointment.

Central American turmoil: El Salvador's victims; Contadora moves spurned

Revenge killings and a legacy of moral chaos

San Salvador, (NYT) - The Government of El Salvador has released more than 50 of the country's 700 political prisoners since the beginning of the year. Last Sunday the bodies of two of those freed were picked up with six others by the International Committee of the Red Cross on a road three miles north of the capital.

Two other men, still alive, were also picked up and taken to hospital by the Red Cross.

One of the survivors, who asked that his name not be used because he feared he would be taken from hospital and killed, said uniformed men in *Mejicanos*, a neighbourhood north of the capital, had ordered him to get into a lorry. "I didn't do anything. I have my papers," said the 34-year-old man, who added that he supported his wife and two daughters by working as a shoemaker and driver and selling goods on the street.

His head was propped up with a wooden board and pillow. His legs had been shattered by bullets fired at close range, making him in slightly worse condition than the 28 other men who shared the big orthopaedic ward with him.

The survivor said he had gone to *Mejicanos* to attend a wedding and had been ordered into the lorry about 9pm. "I don't remember anything," he said. "The Red Cross picked me up in the morning nearly dead and brought me here."

The incident was the second of its kind in three days. Last Friday a body was left in the parking lot of the Camino Real Hotel with a death threat addressed to a member of the moderate Christian Democratic Party.

By the end of the week, local

newspapers had reported that 15 people, including a student and doctor, had been picked up by the National Guard for having political sympathies considered incorrect in San Salvador. Under the state of siege, anyone can be held by the police for 15 days without a cause being given.

Officials tried to play down the incidents, but the murders disturbed many because killings of this sort are not as common in the capital as they were last year.

"I don't think they are organized squadrons," said Señor José Francisco Guerrero, the President's chief aide. "They are people taking revenge. This is part of the moral chaos that the guerrillas have led us to."

Other Salvadoreans believed the resurgence of violence was the work of extreme rightists trying to intimidate Señor Eugenio Vidales Casanova, the new Defence Minister, or a reaction to an amnesty law expected to come into effect this week. Under the law, a three-member commission will have the power to free prisoners charged with political crimes punishable by a sentence of less than four years.

A week ago *Chiquera* was a town of 500 to 600 people. By Saturday it had been abandoned. A few dogs roamed the streets or stood at the blown-out doors of empty houses and at different corners the stench of decaying bodies was unmistakable. A group of men in a lorry with two coffins in the back arrived on Saturday to look for the remaining bodies. At the beginning of the week, left-wing insurgents took the town after heavy fighting that left at least 170 people dead.

Peace mission derided by guerrillas on border

From Martha Honey, San José, Costa Rica

Costa Rican-based anti-Sandinista guerrilla movements are opposed to regional peace efforts by the four Latin American countries comprising "Contadora Group" and have pledged that an observer force coming to investigate tensions along the Costa Rica and Nicaragua border will not be allowed to disrupt their lines of supplies.

In contrast, Costa Rica and Nicaragua, as well as the United States, in a rare display of unity, all back the mission of the observer team which is scheduled to arrive here this week. The four countries in the group, Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia and Panama are appointed two members each, plus necessary supporting staff, to the observer team.

Costa Rica, which has no army, had originally asked the organization of American States (OAS) to send a peace keeping force to patrol its border in order to stop what is claimed are a series of "Nicaraguan incursions." Nicaragua has been calling for UN sponsored bilateral talks to discuss, among other things, movements of anti-Sandinista guerrillas and arms from Costa Rica into southern Nicaragua.

As a compromise both countries endorse the agreement of the Contadora group (so named after the Panamanian island where the group first met earlier this year), reached at a foreign ministers' meeting last week, to send an observer team to investigate the border situation and make recommendations.

The Reagan Administration has, likewise, given endorsement to the Contadora group's peace efforts.

In recent days both military chiefs of the Democratic Revol-

Philadelphia Democrats prefer black for mayor

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Mr Wilson Goode, a sharecropper's son who is seeking to become the first black Mayor of Philadelphia, yesterday won the city's Democratic mayoral primary by defeating his principal opponent, Mr Frank Rizzo, a former mayor, in a closely-run race.

He won about 53 per cent of the votes cast and Mr Rizzo 46 per cent, with four outsiders picking up only a handful of votes between them.

Mr Goode will now face Mr John Egan, a millionaire stockbroker who won the Republican primary, and Mr Thomas Anderson, who is standing as an independent, in the mayoral election in November.

This is an election which Mr Goode should easily win as registered Democrats outnumber Republicans by about five to one in Philadelphia, and the city has remained firmly under Democratic control for the past three decades.

However, the recent contest in Chicago, where a black, Mr Harold Washington, only narrowly achieved victory in what is an overwhelmingly Democratic city, has shown there are many white Democrats who would rather vote Republican than vote for a black.

Mr Goode's campaign workers are concerned that many of Mr Rizzo's supporters may vote Republican or independent in November.

They were heartened, however, by the fact that their candidate won about 25 per cent of the white vote in the primary as well as capturing virtually all the black vote. Blacks make up about 40 per cent of registered Democratic voters.

Mr Goode, who had canvassed hard in white areas of the city, made it clear he would seek to broaden his support among white voters before the November poll. "We are not against anyone; we are for everyone who lives in this city," he declared after claiming victory early yesterday.

Despite Mr Rizzo's past reputation as a controversial



Victory handshake: Mr Goode gives thanks to the supporters who helped him to win the primary.

former commissioner of police with a tough law-and-order record, the primary campaign was notable for its decorum and absence of racial appeals.

Mr Rizzo had tried to soften his image and appeal to a electorate which was no longer as obsessed with law-and-

order issues as it was during the 1960s and 1970s.

If Mr Goode is elected this autumn it would mean that three of the four largest cities in the United States will have black mayors. The others are Chicago and Los Angeles.

Anti-apartheid leader convicted for fraud

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Mr John Rees, a former secretary-general of the South African Council of Churches and current director of the South African Institute of Race Relations, was convicted yesterday in the Rand Supreme Court on 29 charges of fraud.

The judge found that Mr Rees, who was arrested in June last year and then released on 30,000 Rand bail, had requisitioned cheques amounting to 296,000 Rand (about £165,000) from the council's funds and paid them into various personal bank and building society accounts.

In his defence, Mr Rees claimed that most of the money had been given to him by overseas donors, whom he refused to name because they had asked him not to disclose their identity, for a special fund to be used at his discretion to promote peaceful change in South Africa.

Mr Justice Goldstone ruled, however, that the existence of this secret fund, referred to by the defence as the Action Fund, had not been established as "reasonably true", and he suggested that the accused had

Hawke asked about envoy's aid for groups

From Tony Dubodan, Melbourne

The Liberal opposition wants to widen the terms of the Royal Commission into Australia's security and intelligence services to question whether Mr Valeriy Ivanov, the recently expelled Soviet diplomat offered money to organizations here.

Mr Michael Hodgman, a Liberal front bench, asked in Parliament whether the Prime Minister had provided, or attempted to provide, substantial financial assistance.

Mr Robert Hawke told him to raise the matter with the Royal Commission.

Britons lose preference

Canberra (Reuters) - Australia's Labour Government, faced with rising unemployment, yesterday cut the number of migrants it will allow in by 10,000 a year. Britons will no longer get preference over other nationalities.

There are now 715,000 people, or 10.3 per cent of the work force, unemployed and the

Rome terror group is broken up

Rome - Police believe they have broken up one of the last two Red Brigades splinter groups left in Rome, after failure of a terrorist raid on a suburban post office, John Earle writes.

One young man was captured on Tuesday when police arrived, while another surrendered after holding two hostages for five hours. A 23-year-old woman escaped but gave herself up early yesterday.

Police think they were not in contact with the other Red Brigades group, which is held responsible for shooting Professor Gino Giugni, a noted jurist.

Jet returns

Seoul (Reuters) - A Chinese airliner hijacked to south Korea two weeks ago returned home yesterday with 13 airline officials, including a wounded radio operator. The British-built Trident took off from Seoul's Kimpo airport on a three-hour flight to Peking, escorted part of the way by two South Korean fighters.

No bail for Irish

Paris (Reuters) - The Paris Court of Appeal rejected bail applications for three Irish nationalists held on charges of possessing arms and explosives. The Irish police maintain that Mary Reid, Michael Plunkett and Stephen King are members of the Irish National Liberation Army.

Laser cure

Tokyo (AFP) - Japanese medical experts have cured athlete's foot, ringworm and other skin diseases with laser beams, according to a report from the state-run Fukui University. Professor Masahiro Ueda said that 99 per cent of germs were killed within 10 minutes.

Dhaka purge

Dhaka (Reuters) - Military authorities in Bangladesh have dismissed 112 civil servants, eight of them senior bureaucrats, on charges of corruption. About 450 others were under investigation for nepotism, corruption and embezzlement.

Whale stranded

Copenhagen (AP) - Scientists are trying to remove a stranded Arctic white whale from a Danish fiord, but they hold out little hope it can be saved. If it can be captured in a net the 18th whale will be taken overland to the North Sea, about 94 miles by road.

Lynch law

Kampala (Reuters) - A mob of villagers battered to death five people suspected of robbery and murder near the Ugandan capital, the *Nyaba* newspaper said.

Fatal stroke

Titograd (AP) - Lightning killed two airport workers who sought shelter from an approaching storm under an airliner they were about to unload.

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Right gains three seats in Austrian Cabinet

Vienna (Reuters) - Austria's Socialist Chancellor-designate, Dr Fred Sinowatz yesterday announced a new 15-member coalition Government showing eight changes from the outgoing one-party Cabinet.

The new administration includes three members of the rightist-liberal Freedom Party, junior partner in the coalition, with Herr Norbert Steger the party leader, (receiving the post of Vice-Chancellor and Trade Minister).

Herr Erwin Lanc the former Interior Minister moves to the Foreign Ministry which had been occupied by Herr Wilhelm Fahr.

Two senior members of the Socialist Party leadership receive ministerial posts for the first time: Herr Karl Bloch takes over the Interior Ministry from Herr Lanc and Herr Fischer become Science Minister.

Other portfolios which the Freedom Party receive are the Justice Ministry, taken over by Herr Harald Otter, and the

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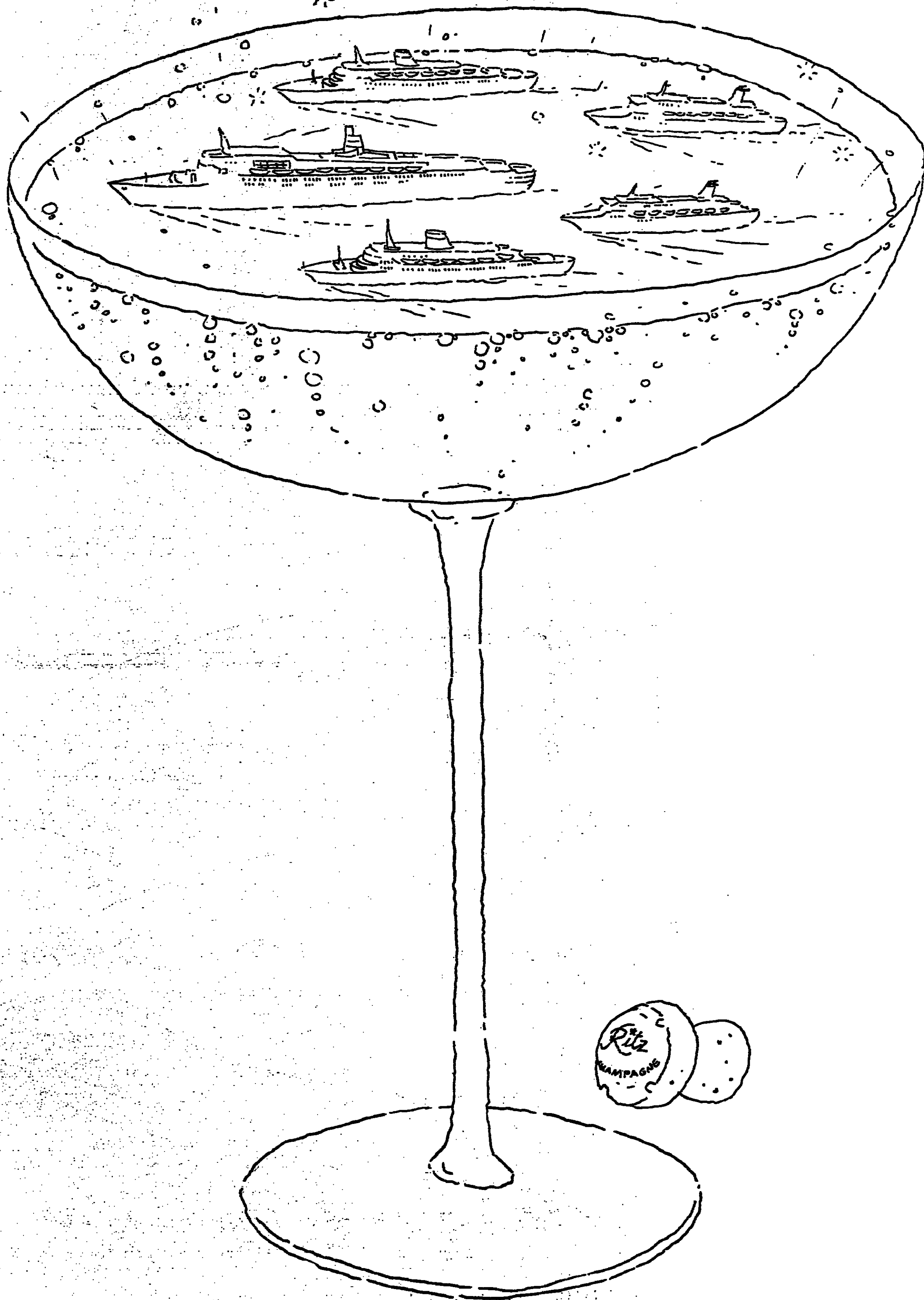
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Love thy neighbour . . . noise permitting

MODERN TIMES

A sideways look at the British way of life

long dreamed, held just round the corner in the shopping precinct and climaxed by a beheading with one of his own shovels, these are some of the charges that would be read out on the Public Address:

- That he did wilfully engage the services of a local contractor in order to dismember, topple and remove a mature silver birch which he knew to be a listed tree.
- That he did import into the neighbourhood a doberman pinscher of unsound mind which, through reasons of malnutrition, did repeatedly slaver at the bedroom window of Mrs Biggs, a confectioner, of number 51, with intent to devour her.
- That he did on several occasions between September 1981 and May 1983 fill the air abutting his premises with the recorded noises of James Last and his Orchestra.

Prosecuting counsel (for which part I would tender my unpaid services now that Sir Michael Horden is so busy) would rise and deliver a denunciation so chilling that grown men proceeding from Safeway's would freeze like Lot into pillars of Cerebus.

I have picked on Mr Kilfeather for two reasons; first, because he picked on me by coming to live here in the first place, and second because he seems to be a pretty fair amalgam of all that one hears complained about in neighbours. He will, as they say in the American Express adverts, do nicely.

Really I suppose, the Christian but difficult impulse of compassion would be more appropriate. For a start he has thousands of daughters, when all he wanted was a son. Whenever another girl is born he allows a brief period of mourning to elapse before he is at his wife again to cure the gender imbalance which is progressively further from redress. They may never run out of girls, but surely they are getting short of years? I suppose the doberman, who is called Harvey, was his way of getting even. It seems a little extreme.

As a result of all this he has erected a sad little potting shed at the end of his garden which two years later, does not contain a single pot - not so much as a thimble. There is a single gleaming grass rake there, which will gleam forever as he has done away with all the grass. When the rain falls he does not seek the sanctuary of the house, but stands silently in the empty shed, his face framed in the window like a prisoner of conscience, looking back through the watery bars at the teeming femininity.

But to return for a moment to the charge sheet. The silver birch was spotless of any crime, save that of doing what it must do, and what his family does, viz, grow. It was a fine wavy specimen which did its own modest bit towards foliating a rather barren back garden and even baffling some of the noise from the main road. Unless the council compels him to tack the poor thing together, with superglue (which is not beyond its wit), it can only be assumed to have shimmered its last. It simply had no place in Mr Kilfeather's grand scheme. He abhors growing matter, and if he could find such a thing as a rising plumb line he would use it to locate and destroy every tiny frond and scion that waves rashly from Mrs. Biggs's garden over his division of air.

Neighbours, like relatives but unlike friends, are those near ones whom you cannot choose. The more egregious among them believe that their rights over you come with the freehold, that mere proximity, geographical as genealogical, entitles them to unquestioned spokesmanship. After all, who was it that formed the residents' association, drafted that pungent circular about parking, fixed up the first meeting and chivvied the pensioners into a glacial hall? Mr. Kilfeather of course. And who was it that framed the resolution committing you to attack silver birches, kennel doberman and play James Last and his Orchestra not less than four times a week? Correct again.

And he's only been here two years. Where will we be a decade from now, after Mrs Biggs has finally despaired of being believed by the public safety officer about Harvey and moved away? After the thousand and one daughters have matted like convolvulus across the neighbouring fences? After Harvey himself has amazingly seduced the corgi from number 63 and spawned a hideous mafia of mutants? At this point, I suppose, one comes to fear the truth of the domino theory and believe that Mr Kilfeather will somehow contrive to plump the region with his own ilk. Which is why I proposed the Nicaragua solution in the first place.

A knock at the door. Who can it be? I really must remember to fix one of those spy holes so that I can feign absence when Mr Kilfeather comes touting for association levies. It is Mr Kilfeather. Good evening, Mr Kilfeather. What? I have left my sidelights on. Well, that's very kind of you to tell me. Very kind indeed.

Perhaps he is not so bad after all. What a terrible thought.

Alan Franks

Take Mr Kilfeather from down the road at number 49. Please take him if ever you are up this way, and point him in the direction of a new life in, shall we say, the Nicaragua/Honduras borderland. If the climate doesn't get him, the Sandinistas will, thereby doing the Terrace a supreme act of liberation. You will gather that I do not love Mr Kilfeather; loving thy neighbour is one thing, but what about thy neighbour's neighbour's neighbour? There's nothing in the rules about him.

At the show trial of which I have long dreamed, held just round the corner in the shopping precinct and climaxed by a beheading with one of his own shovels, these are some of the charges that would be read out on the Public Address:

- That he did wilfully engage the services of a local contractor in order to dismember, topple and remove a mature silver birch which he knew to be a listed tree.
- That he did import into the neighbourhood a doberman pinscher of unsound mind which, through reasons of malnutrition, did repeatedly slaver at the bedroom window of Mrs Biggs, a confectioner, of number 51, with intent to devour her.
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TRADE RELATIONS

Bob Payne
Wine bar proprietor and restaurateur,
about his neighbour Harry Harris

"One of the bonuses of opening the wine bar has been getting to know Harry Harris. I warned to him immediately. We never talk about racing, although we have a standing date to go to Cheltenham when he promises to show me what it's all about. Since I've opened here I have a small bet two, three times a week. If I win with Harry I feel guilty, although he doesn't. If one of the customers ever gives me 'a good tip' I always tell him. He doesn't of course take any notice. . . . We have a regular mutual mean about the difficulties with bureaucracy, problems of running a small business. Harry reminiscing is delightful. A great humanitarian, that's how I'd describe Mr Harris. When he retires I'll be sad. I'll miss him greatly."

Harry Harris
Turf Accountant, about his immediate neighbour Bob Payne

This one? He's not a bad fellow though he beats me at crib sometimes. I pop in most days to say hello, have the occasional glass of wine. Some times we walk over the road and have a beer together, for a change. And if I've had a slow start to the afternoon, can't get up to the bank and need to pay out suddenly I know I can pop into my friendly cashier. Warmth, friendship and respect each other's privacy in business is what counts."



MEZZANINE MISERY

Bernard McKenna
Scriptwriter, editor, who lives in a house of six flats

"What's interesting about us is that we're all losers and all professionals. The only time we all meet is once a year for the annual meeting of the residents' association. A serious business. They bring the necessary papers and calculators. I have a stiff drink and make silly suggestions. I think they like me because I'm the biggest, fiercest looking guy in the house. As a writer I often work at home and they might think I act as some kind of deterrent. They're all incredibly clean and tidy, they've all got net curtains and

wonder why I don't clean my windows. Because I don't do anything in the garden I don't go out in it - they make me feel guilty not by asking me to mow the lawn but by showing me how the mower works; and use similar plays with the hoover in the hall. When they're doing the garden I play classical music - they all seem to like it, and they claim to like my cooking smells too - lots of red wine and garlic and onions and I grind my own coffee. At night I might have the odd burst of Fleetwood Mac or the Stones, if I'm a bit worse for wear or a bit rammy. So far they've never complained. Seriously, the reason why it works with the neighbours is that no one makes any attempts to get close."

RELUCTANT GOALIE

Andrew Tozer
Freelance copywriter, lives in a road where most houses have been converted to flats

"Next door on the ground floor is a lady whom, I assume, from the number of CD number-plates on Mercedes and Rolls parked outside, to be from a West African embassy. She's very elegantly dressed in classic African splendour, as I recall. I haven't seen her for three months. Above her is a Portuguese lady and her daughter. You don't so much see as hear her. She has a limited record library - Dennis Boutsos and a lot of heavy, soulful Spanish stuff - which comes in for the odd repeat in the course of an afternoon, the volume creeping up all the while. When it becomes unbearable I go round and ask her to turn it down - if I can get her to hear me knocking. It's like living inside the sound box of a double bass. . . . We used to have even noisier neighbours on the other side. The man played the piano late into the night - badly - from Art Tatum to Russ Conway. My wife once beat a bomb handle on their glass doors and there was complete silence for three weeks. Then it started again, but louder. I solved the problem with the 1812 at full volume at 2 am, speakers next to their bedroom wall. Then they



moved. . . . Strangely the most annoying noise comes from the gang of kids playing football against the garages on the other side. There's nothing quite like the thud of a football on aluminium on a hot summer's afternoon. . . . I've got six footballs now, waiting for collection."



OVER THE FIVE-BAR GATE

Antony Payne
with his own small farm in Devon

"Farmers are definitely more neighbourly than other people. Your lives are similar and you need your friends. I'm all sheep at the moment, Gordon Knott has cows and sheep and Gordon Kellaway's are sheep and beef. They're the only neighbours I indulge myself with - we're all about the same age and we meet in all sorts of business and socially, at the pub, parties and after summer for skittling nights and darts. Take Gordon Kellaway. He only lives over the stream; if I ran short of anything brussels sprouts, whatever - I'd nip over. Or if I want the weekend

off I'll ask him to look after things (the parents wouldn't necessarily know if an animal was sick) and of course I do the same for him. He comes over and does the docking and shearing with me; he shears, I catch and tie. I pay him cash in hand for that. I do contract work as well, hire myself out to whoever wants me. Gordon Knott and I exchange a lot of things: I don't make much hay so I haven't got a plough - he does my ploughing and baling. I've got a hay bob though and he borrows that. Financially it saves a hell of a lot if you get on with your neighbours; if farmers stick to themselves they have to buy in labour and all their machinery. If I'm in difficulties I know they'll be there at the drop of a hat - and they know I'll do the same."

RICH MAN IN HIS CASTLE . . .

Patrick Hickman
Businessman farmer with a house in London and Hale Park

"We were friends first and established a business relationship afterwards. I farm four days a week - I'd possibly stagnate if it were seven. It's marvellous having someone here when I'm in London. I know that if anything were to go wrong, David would contact me or if I needed to get an urgent message through he'd take it. On the farm things are always breaking down and he always helps. He's a very good engineer. When I'm here I often go into his office for a cup of coffee and a chat at 10 o'clock. In London one's neighbours are not the sort on whom one can just walk in. The country is quite different. If one's neighbours are frightful one doesn't get to know them. David and I are good neighbours. He's not cluttering up the place when I'm there - he sails at weekends - and vice versa; but when we do meet it's enjoyable."

David Whittle

Broadcasting consultant with an office over Hale Park stables

"I was looking for a new office. During a discussion with friends Patrick said: 'Why don't you come and use the flat over my stables?' He appears on Thursdays and goes back to town on Mondays. While he's here he drives around in an old London diesel taxi, then on Mondays he takes off in the Rolls. He's done quite a lot of work on the estate - clearing some of the trees, creating some lovely vistas. He also knows that if he has any problems with machinery I can usually help out. It's easy to get misled about what to do with a ballbearing. . . . The relationship works. He gets rent and knows that the place is kept warm and dry and that if anything odd happened we'd notice. I work in peaceful surroundings. He's very direct."

Judy Froshaug



And now, General Menendez writes . . .



We have not heard a single word from General Menendez since he last wrote an editorial column for us and, though we are naturally anxious about his wellbeing, we are even more anxious that our problem corner should continue. Accordingly we are very grateful to his old friend, General Menendez, for taking over just this time.

General Menendez, as you all remember, fought throughout the Falklands War and was privileged to be present at the signing of the victory document. All yours, General!

Have you got any inside information on General Galtieri's whereabouts, General? We're all very worried about him. - Tim H. Paddington.

General Menendez writes: He is well and fine. He is just disappeared, that is all. As you know, there has been a lot of controversy in Argentina recently about people who have disappeared for ever, and are said to be dead. We now realize that this could be interpreted as undemocratic, and we are introducing a new system: to disappear people for a while. This is what has happened to Leopoldo.

There was a lot of fuss in England, General, about the relations between the media and the Ministry of Defence during the late war. What were things like on the Argentine side? - Nick B. Portsmouth.

General Menendez writes: We had very little trouble with the press or TV, but then we rarely do. The British took journalists with them at enormous expense, so that they could file stories which were largely

fictionous or propaganda. We found it much cheaper to leave our journalists at home in Buenos Aires, to do the same thing. We were very puzzled that no pictures of the war appeared on British television for two months, and for a while we were worried that the task force had gone somewhere else by mistake. You used quite a lot of Argentine war footage, of course, I don't think you ever realized that it was all taken from old Argentine war films.

I am told that most of the TV coverage of the war in Britain took the form of retired generals saying what they would do, from which we learnt a lot, incidentally. There is no question of using retired generals on Argentine TV. They are all in the government!

On a lighter note, what do you reckon to the Derby v. Fulham match? Should it have been replayed? - Malcolm MacD., London.

General Menendez writes: The one that ended 78 seconds short? It seems obvious to me. Both sides should meet again. But only for 78 seconds!

Do you approve of these new yellow clamps that the London police are putting on cars? - A Diplomat, London.

General Menendez writes: Excellent, excellent. The Argentine Army has been experimenting with these for quite a while and we hope to use them in the next war.

General Menendez writes: My friend, if only I had been consulted in time, I could have prevented all this. After all, I have seen the genuine diaries.

As you know, or perhaps do not know, Señor Hitler was a resident in a country not far from mine for many years, and we military types would sometimes drop in and pass the time of day with one who, after all, had had much more experience of fighting than any of us. He often used to say that the British could be beaten, but the BBC never, and we all knew it was up with us at Port Stanley when we saw Max Hastings being sent in

to interview us. We would rather surrender than that. However, I digress. We always urged Señor Hitler to publish his diaries. His answer was simple: I did not write any. Our answer was simple: Well, write some. And eventually he did, and in 1977 he sent them to the biggest Buenos Aires newspaper. But unfortunately his memory was going and he did not have proper reference works, so the newspaper was not satisfied. In fact, they sent them back saying they were a fake. This, I think, broke his heart and he died not long after.

(Some general or other will be back soon to answer more queries.)

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 63)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	32	33	34	35

ACROSS

- Clergyman (6)
- Doze (6)
- Cheer (3)
- Caring (6)
- Assault (6)
- Light kiss (4)
- Coat (8)
- Marine animal (9)
- Short ped (6)
- Unspoken (8)
- Taunt (4)
- Dinner jacket (6)
- Foothold cutter (3)
- Noton (3)
- Suare (6)
- Make certain (6)

DOWN

- Go (5)
- American Indian (7)
- Baked pudding (7)
- Seal (5)
- Levy (5)
- Hateful (7)
- Flightless bird (7)
- Of them (5)
- Childbirth nurse (7)
- Military group (5)
- Female African (7)
- Ring fighter (5)

SOLUTION TO No 62

ACROSS: 1 Cesing 4 Vanity 7 Rary 8 Frontier 9 Cul de sac 12 Men 15 Animal 16 Funnell 17 Pen 19 Fallate 24 Quickest 25 Uper 26 Sproun 27 Inborn

DOWN: 1 Curt 2 Sachistion 3 Gaffs 4 Viola 5 Note 6 Theme 18 Draff 11 Churns 12 Manifest 13 Nile 14 Carp 18 Equip 20 Avert 21 Lathi 22 Echo 23 Cruz

BOOKS

The Singers and their songs

The Brothers Ashkenazi
by I. J. Singer

(Allison & Busby, £9.95)

The Brothers Singer
by Clive Sinclair

(Allison & Busby, £8.95)

The Brothers Singer - Israel Joshua and the now better known Isaac Bashevis - are presumably the last important exponents of a considerable, if not major, literature. When Yiddish was a genuinely going concern those who spoke it did not write imaginative works if they were devout, and if they were enlightened did not write in Yiddish. It was a sign of cultural disintegration, then, when Yiddish writers of fiction appeared in the late nineteenth century. The scattered survivors of the East European Jews for whom and about whom they wrote now speak Hebrew or a widely imitated American dialect ("Show me a vegetarian, I'll show you someone who's not good to his mother" etc.).

The Singers are not only the last but also the most important Yiddish writers. Their most gifted predecessors - Mendele, Peretz and Sholem Aleichem - confined themselves almost entirely to the shtetl, the tightly enclosed Jewish village in the Russian Pale of Settlement, in somewhat repetitive variations on folk-tale themes, writing stories with titles like "How Ikkele the Shmendrik got his daughters married off" or "How the Chasen's goat got the better of the Wonder Rabbi of Bialy Dupa".

Quite a lot of the Singers' work is rooted in the shtetl - Isaac Bashevis's first novel *Satanstoe* in *Chlorof*, for example, and Israel Joshua's *Yoshe Kalb* - but they use it as a jumping off

point. Bashevis transfigures it with dramatic eruptions of the supernatural to produce a fictional correlate of the magic villages of Cahgall; Joshua either moves out into the industrialized, politicized world of eastern Europe in the early years of this century or, in *Yoshe Kalb*, his most shtetl-bound book, deploys his story with a sexual explicitness very much at odds with the decorum of his predecessors.

The Brothers Ashkenazi is about the two sons of a devout but occupationally emancipated father, leader of the Jewish community in the newly industrialized city of Lodz and sales manager of a German-owned textile factory. The elder twin, Max, devotes his considerable powers of intellect and will to acquiring wealth and power; the better-looking Yakub does just as well by becoming an Edwardian man of pleasure. Max marries into a large Jewish business and soon takes it over. Eventually he takes over the factory his father works in and turns him out. The reader's eyebrows may be caused to go up by the way in which he continues to live in his father-in-law's house (in accordance with the terms of the marriage contract) even after he has bankrupted him.

Another narrative line follows the career of Nissan, a rabbi's son who becomes a radical political activist of a traditional type, an articulate version of Orwell's horse Boxer and of totally unrelieved high-mindedness. Strikes bring him and the brothers into contact again many years after being together at Nissan's father's religious school. In the middle section of the book Max is in insecure glory as "king of Lodz". (There is technical progress, the war of 1905, rioting, much money made. In the final part the war of 1914 leads Max to shift his business from German Lodz to Petrograd, but the revolution is too

much for even his skills to fix. Yakub dies getting him back to independent Poland where the new Polish state crushes him with its anti-Semitic economic policy.

This novel is a large social panorama, describing all the main aspects of post-shtetl Jewish life in eastern Europe. It is constantly illuminating and interesting, it flows along without dull pauses, conveying information concisely and switching from one line of the narrative to another rapidly and adroitly. Nevertheless it is not in the same class as the work of Isaac Bashevis. Making allowance for the stronger type of material provided by the eastern European setting, it reminded me on the whole of *The Crowthers of Bankdam*. It is more sprightly than Galsworthy, less complacent and knowing than Priestley, but that is the general kind of book it is.

Irving Howe in his excellent introduction says, "It would be convenient to foreclose the matter by saying that I. J. Singer, the elder brother, is a premodernist writer and that I. B. Singer, the younger brother, is a modernist, or that the first drew his acclaim from middlebrow and the second from highbrow audiences; but that would be rather glib, even if with a shred of truth". It is not so convenient, it is entirely correct, even if the generally dubious inference is drawn that the modernist and highbrow is always better premodernist and middlebrow, for it gives a true conclusion in this case, even if not in many others.

Clive Sinclair provides the Singers with treatment as a literary family of a kind that is often meted out to the Poynters. For good measure he adds a sister, Esther Kreitzman, whose novel *Deborah* has just been published by Virago. This is a short and fairly puzzling book. It takes for granted that its readers know what a *heder* is



Isaac Bashevis and Israel Joshua: the last great inheritors of a tradition that was shaken into life by the Enlightenment and destroyed by the Holocaust

and other such technicalities of Judaism. Straightforward facts about the family emerge only contingently upon their relevance to features of what its members have written. By and large indeed, such biographical matter as there is derived from the fiction. What happened to Esther after she married the inadequate Antwerp diamond cutter? What did I. J. die of?

The Brothers Singer does trace recurrent characters in the fiction of the brothers and their sister to actual

people in their lives, in particular their parents and the gross and corrupt rabbi who, exploited their dreamy and ineffective father for many years. It is enlightening on the cultural crisis for the Jews of Europe that long preceded the hyperbolic catastrophe of Hitler, and on the way in which he was prepared for by the increasingly disgusting anti-Semitism of Orthodox Russia, Catholic Poland, and Protestant Germany.

Anthony Quinton

Hitch hatchet job

The Life of Alfred Hitchcock

The Dark Side of Genius

By Donald Spote

(Collins, £12.95)

Donald Spote is that uncomfortable, but not after all so uncommon, combination, scholar and sensationalist. The scholar side drives him to compile a seemingly endless collection of quotations from those who worked with Hitchcock, all saying much the same things, because research, having been done, must be seen to be done. The sensationalist side leads to a lot of breathless inference about Hitchcock's real sexual interests and the gleeful display of everything which might, seen in a certain light, look vaguely like dirty linen. In the circumstances, one can only be amazed at how little the book manages to come up with.

A lot of this sort of writing is in the tone of voice. For some writers a taste for farting cushions and the like might seem merely childish and perhaps therefore rather lovable; for the Spotes of this world it excites speculation as to what strange sadistic impulse drove the perpetrator of such tricks to degrade and humiliate guests (particularly, of course, cool, poised blondes) by concealing obscenities in apparently innocent pieces of furniture. Hitchcock's famous practical jokes all tend to go in this direction. Whether one finds them funny or not, it has to be faced that they all belong to a general tradition of hearty Edwardian humour; to read Mr Spote, who concentrates on the slightly cruel jokes to the virtual exclusion of the whimsical and surrealistic, one might suppose that Hitchcock had personally invented the practical joke as a vehicle for his own suppressed sadism.

There are, of course, interesting things in the book. There could hardly fail to be in nearly 600 pages. Mr Spote has unearthed a surprising amount of early family history for the Hitchcocks, and the seemingly inexhaustible *Schickel* papers have come up with more goodies about the financial and other transactions between the producer and his contract director. Naturally some of the comments quoted from workmates are revealing, though they tend to emphasize the hostility, so that one starts to wonder why, if Hitchcock was such a monster, so many of his professional associates stayed with him for so long. There are

also a few inaccuracies, especially where Mr Spote's American vagueness about English habits and history leads him astray: the first picture in the book, for example, is not, as claimed, of the young Alfred Hitchcock and his father, but, fairly evidently even from internal evidence, Hitchcock père and Alfred's elder brother William celebrating the Diamond Jubilee two years before Alfred was born.

The way the book is presented inevitably makes its major issue, Hitchcock's relations with women. Anyone who has been close to Hitchcock, or indeed studied his films attentively, will have come to the conclusion that he had some kind of unacknowledged sexual yen for his famously cool, famously blonde leading ladies. Mr Spote comes to that conclusion at great length, very emphatically, as though no one has ever had an inkling of it before. The next question is, did this yen ever find any kind of physical expression? Hitchcock always insisted on his "celibacy" for going on 50 years. And that seems believable - not for the reasons he implied (devout Catholicism), but because he shared to the full the invincible vanity of the physically ill-favoured: he would surely never have risked a refusal, or even a reservation behind the eyes. Most of the sex in the films has a voyeuristic, masturbatory quality, the film-maker musing the game he dare not bite, which only adds to its potency - since the man was a voyeur of genius. Mr Spote does not, for all his dark mutterings about twisted sexuality, come up with any clear evidence to counter this view, except for one alleged sexual proposition to Tippi Hedren (nature unspecified) during the shooting of *Marnie*. Again, it is no surprise to suggest that Tippi Hedren was the hopeless devotion of Hitchcock's declining years, but if the mysterious incident actually occurred it seems like a sad occasion for sympathy rather than a gasp of puritan horror.

Perhaps we should psychoanalyse Mr Spote. Why has he suddenly turned against films he praised to the skies in his earlier book on Hitchcock? Was it because, when he finally met the great man in 1975, Hitchcock proved elusive, and after his death the family were (understandably) puzzled about the idea of "authorizing" a second biography? What strange, sadistic impulse is it...? But no: the tone, though catching must not be caught.

John Russell Taylor

N or M

Names
By Basil Cottle

(Thames & Hudson, £9.50)

No one knew what to make of the village known as Faventia, which, translated from Old English seemed to mean a spotty floor, until excavations in 1865 revealed an unexpected tessellated Roman pavement. The story, told in triumph in this book by Basil Cottle, who believes that names, at best, possess a mystic sense of rightness (and maybe he is quite correct: just think of Mrs Whitehouse) raises the tantalizing question of whether we grow like the names with which we are surrounded - our Christian names, our place names, our house and car and cat names - or whether it is possible to rise above them. I have often felt quite worried about those who live in Neasden: what effect have Neasden jokes had on the Neasden-dweller's psyche? Do those in Tunbridge Wells feel impelled to be disgusted? For, as Basil Cottle argues, the power of names is strong.

Dr Cottle's special expertise is with the surname. He is the author of *The Penguin Dictionary of Surnames* and receives a monumental daily mail from people seeking information on their origins (few of whom, he sadly reflects, enclose stamped envelopes). But his marvelously erudite, affectionate survey ranges much wider than the Smiths, Joneses and Williams, dull surnames of the century. All sorts of names excite him: names of hills and streams and valleys, flora, fauna, hymn tunes, pop groups, names of now defunct commodities remembered from his childhood, such as Mother Siegel's Syrup and Joe Weil's Athletic Rub. Why Terry's Spartan Chocolates, which sound dauntingly inedible? And why Imperial Leather? Basil Cottle likes to speculate as much as provide answers. He is eager to remind us that the names we have and use become a part of our own history. They can be handsome plangent, splendid with self-deception. And even the most humble have a poetry of sorts.

Different names mean different things in different countries. John is pretty standard as a name for men in Britain but in Japan apparently a lot of dogs get called it.

Different names at different times have very new reverberations. Stanley, brought to ridicule by Stan Laurel and Stan Baldwin, has become a name of heroism since the Falklands war. Mark, such is the huge influence of royalty on nomenclature, rocketed to favour with the advent of Mark Phillips, though dissidents might find this a good reason for avoiding it. The subject is rife with vacillation and prejudice. Dr Cottle, for example, seems to loathe the name Samantha. Personally, I could never love anyone called Arnold. The author complains bitterly his own name is a burden; but I assure you, Basil, that Fiona is a worse one.

Jane Austen was demonstrably a genius at naming. In the best and most original chapter of his *Names* book, Basil Cottle analyses the use of names in fiction, seeing it as an aspect of the creative process in which some writers shine a good deal more than others. Virginia Woolf, for instance, never really gets the hang of it. Her giving out of names is rather random and high-handed. Daisy Ashford, though a child, had an instinctive knack for it. Her names are all superb, particularly the misspelt ones. Poor Alfred Salteena, the epitome of failure. Rickamere Hall: wonderful. The Galety Hotel.

The right name can be evasive, as unwilling to be captured by the butterflies, or flusterby, from pompous Purple Emperors to frivolous Frillularies which flit through the most picturesque of Dr Cottle's listings. Even he, the noted expert, sometimes makes a total flop of it, as in the name Woperson which he himself puts forward as a serious alternative to Woman, based he says on established forms like "chairperson" and already in use with some of his (male) students. I am sorry, Dr Cottle, Woperson is impossible, belying your whole theory that the purposes of naming are to wrap up, and to control the object named, and also to control and render harmless - ah yes - all things alarming. Woperson does neither. But forget the complex question of this name belittling women. Woperson has no magic. As a name it is no good.

Fiona MacCarthy

Englished classics

Daphne into Laurel

Translations of classical poetry

from Chaucer to the present

By Richard Stoneman

(Duckworth, £24)

All those rows of sleek, shiny Penguin Classics which shuffle obediently along the shelves of our major bookstores to plump, tiny covers blazoned with gold-leaf, of a thousand students, have no mean ancestry. In the early 18th century, Matthew Prior was writing:

Hang HOMER and VIRGIL, Their meaning to seek,
A man must have po'd in the Latin and Greek;
Those who Love their own Tongue,
We have Reason to Hope.

And one can trace arguments about the theory and practice of classical translation into English back to its virtual beginning with the 15th century John Lydgate and William Caxton.

In this delicious book, Richard Stoneman pursues the history of English language and literature through its verse-translations and imitations of classical poetry from Chaucer to C. H. Sisson. In a wide-ranging introduction, he discusses reasons for translating (everything from offering moral lessons to the "unlabeled", to toughening up the poetic sinews, rather as the ancient Greek critic "Longinus" saw imitation in terms of a young wrestler entering the ring against an experienced champion); moves into theories of translation, with special emphasis on Dryden's distinction between "metaphrase"

paraphrase, and imitation; and ends with a survey of the history of translation, which (rightly) sees the Augustan Age and the work of Pope and Dryden as the apogee, never again would a whole learned generation feel that such an effortless harmony existed between the three cultures and languages as then.

The great bulk of the book is taken up with Stoneman's selection of translations, printed in a temporal sequence. Each author is given an introductory preface, and here I would make my only real complaint. These notes ought to show why the chosen translation is important and significant, because only in this way can the development outlined in the introduction be brought to life by the examples. As it is, I was often left wondering "Why exactly this or that passage?" Still, the selections are a joy. Among many rich delights, I curled my toes with especial pleasure at the manicured Stanyhurst's Dido committing suicide (1582):

Thrice she did endeavour, too moun
and rest on her elbow;
Thrice to her bed sliding she quays,
with her shining eyesight
Up to the sky starting with belting
scurriery she roareth...
at Bunting's biting *cheu fugaces* (1971) which ends:

Better men will empty
bottles we locked away,
wine puddle our tables,
fit wine for a pope
and at William Diaper's gorgeous lobster (1722) from Oppian's *Haliutica*:

Nought like their home the constant
lobsters prize,
And foreign shores, and seas
unknown despise...
No novel customs learns in different
seas.
But wonted food, and home-taught
manners please.
His long-desired house the lobster
owns,
And with close ardent claw indents
the favorite stones.

Stoneman must be applauded for including imitations as well as translations (Pound's *Homage*, for example, and C. H. Sisson's *Carmen Saeculare*). This unlikely genre is not dead (witness Alastair Elliot's "Talking to Horace", and his keenly awaited reinterpretation of Horace's journey from Rome to Brindisi) and offers a fruitful way in to the richness of the classical tradition.

Peter Jones

Presidents' man

America in Search of Itself

The Making of the President, 1956-1960

By Theodore H. White

(Cape, £10.95)

The shadow of Herbert Hoover lies greyly over this book. Jimmy Carter was, as Theodore White notes, the first incumbent President since Hoover to be voted out after only one term of office. And he was replaced, in White's view, by "the most thoroughly ideological President since Hoover".

The United States was lucky enough to have three skilled pragmatists in succession - Roosevelt, Truman and Eisenhower. Kennedy might have made a fourth. Since then there have been men flawed either by the erosion of overweening ambition, or by that even worse corrosive - sheer dullness.

A leading New York Democrat visited Carter in his private study next to the Oval Office. There was a pile of papers knee-high beside him. "Do you know what that is?" Carter asked. "That's the Air Force budget. I've read every page of it."

Carter, in this side of his character, would have made a good TV researcher in a dry year. Theodore White built his reputation as a presidential reporter with the ability to choose and savour anecdotes like that. He began covering presidential campaigns in 1956 the year the Eisenhower-Nixon ticket smashed Adlai Stevenson - at a time when there might only be half a dozen reporters apart from himself at a crucial primary. At the same primary there would now, he says, be 450 correspondents; perhaps a thousand people altogether if you count television staff.

This is partly his attempt to range back over those years to try to find the pattern, the figure in the electoral carpet. Partly it is a straight account of the unmaking of Jimmy Carter and the making of Ronald Reagan. Something, White thinks, ended when Reagan was elected, something was repudiated; but what?

In 1960, White had the very bright idea of chronicling the making of the President. The President turned out to be John

F. Kennedy. The book made White's name, and it also became part of the Kennedy legend. With its surging drama and loving attention to detail, it was among the influences on how Harold Wilson presented himself. And on the strength of it, White began a series, which never had the same bite but were reasonably interesting - till 1972.

It turned out that Nixon's campaign of that year was not all it had been cracked up to be. Nor was Nixon. White had given Nixon the benefit of the doubt. There was a melancholy gap in the series till now. And White sees this as the talismanic Or should it be tombstone?

This is a somewhat disjointed volume, because of its dual purpose - to philosophize over recent history and to map a particular moment. White is a better mapmaker than philosopher. On the dustjacket, his photograph has the air of an amiable lumberjack. His arms in their plaid shirt are folded heavily on his typewriter. His wrist watch is solidly analogue: no digital nonsense here. And this all matches his way with politics on the grander scale. The thoughts don't reach much deeper than the bottom of a crackerbarrel.

You can sense him, like any good reporter, straining to get back to the anecdotes, the facts, even the factoids. Did you know that of Reagan's rivals for the Republican candidacy in 1980, Senator Howard Baker was not only the youngest (55 years old) of the major contenders, but also the shortest (5ft 7½ inches)? O. Insight, what trivia are committed in thy name!

On the Carter years, however, he is fascinating. There is high farce as Carter, confronted by the great Gas Panic of 1979, failed to make the usual low-key administrative response. (One American even died in a gas station shoot-out for fuel, but there was never more than a 3 per cent shortfall, nationwide.) Instead, he retreated to Camp David and emerged with a disastrously "spiritual" message to the nation.

You can see - and White can see - just how Reagan came to win. But what really is the message for the future when one Hoover sweeps out another? There, Theodore White is, as he acknowledges, as much in the dark as any of us.

Paul Barker

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Christine was to drive her owner into the jaws of hell...

FROM THE INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED MASTER OF HORROR

STEPHEN KING

How to survive when power changes hands

The Seizure of Power
By Czeslaw Milosz

(Faber, £7.95)

The Colonel

By David Hart

(Blond & Briggs, £6.95)

The Seizure of Power is a novel about resistance, survival and accommodation. It deals with the period of the Warsaw rising of 1944, when the Red Army waited on the far side of the Vistula for the various factions of Polish patriots to die in a premature insurrection against the Germans. With many alternative leaders eliminated, particularly those loyal to the Polish government in exile in London, the Russians could take over the ruins of Warsaw and install their own trained Polish cadres.

Milosz describes this bitter time, when loyalties and betrayals, beliefs and acceptances, led the Poles to kill each other as well as the Germans. A poet who has won the Nobel Prize, Milosz uses a method of short sketches, intercut with observations by his main characters, to give an impression of incoherence and ambivalence towards the horrors of the day. His hero, a political education officer, ends by emigrating as Milosz did himself.

Recent events in Poland have made this book, written thirty years ago, apposite and illuminating, particularly the strange realism by which right-wing Catholics can be turned to supporting a Communist regime. This is no tract on how to seize power. It is a novel on how to live when power changes hands. Thucydides' account of the revolution in Corcyra and the Peloponnesian War is the guiding spirit of the book - a time when prudence seemed cowardice, violence seemed

manliness, and plotting a justified means of self-defence. In Warsaw, that civil war still rages.

David Hart has written a ferocious satire on the decadence of contemporary England in *The Colonel*. The hero, a Jewish immigrant dedicated to domination, owes something to Marquez and Fuentes with their imaginary caudillos, but the vision of a rotten England, living in nostalgic luxury, while hordes of perverted children and unemployed workers provoke a *coup d'état* after the assassination of the Monarch, is more Machiavellian than Latin American.

If *The Prince* is read as a political satire rather than a handbook on realpolitik, the *Colonel* appears as a splenic nightmare about a corrupt society that will recognize. For a first novelist, Hart is an admirable writer - lucid, cogent, with a rich terseness that signals a formidable control

over his material. He describes himself as a political adviser when he is writing. If such descriptions of manipulation and decay and conspiracy are the basis of his political forecasting, and if he is right, then the reckoning is sooner than we imagine.

Corruption and crime are the subjects of John Milne's second novel, *London Fields* (*Hamish Hamilton*), £7.95. His hero, Elf (Alfred Hicks) drifts into crime with a West Indian friend, Claude. They are betrayed, Claude is killed, and Elf is gaoled for murdering a rival gangster. More savage and raw than Colin McInnes's excursions into the same underworld, Milne's characters retain a strange poetry in their descriptions. Without education, Elf has taught himself London history and perceptions of time that recall T. S. Eliot. Milne's novels are original and powerful; but he does include material beyond the possible knowledge of his people. Yet *London*

Fields is authentic and unsettling. *Alex Kates Shulman's On the Stroll* (*Virago*, £8.95) is well-researched, the case history as novel. It deals with the problem of runaway American teenagers, turned into prostitutes in New York. The main characters are an old bag-woman called Owl, whose memories suggest what has gone wrong in society since the First World War, the sixteen-year-old Robin, fleeing from homes that are no home, and Prince, her pimp, who seduces her with warmth and understanding before putting her on the game.

The descriptions of the lives and ways of the prostitutes are almost clinical, while Owl's visions are mystical, so that the sleazy areas of New York are lit by the fires of heaven and hell as well as by police lamps and neon signs. *On the Stroll* is a novel about a contemporary social waste that defines without enough engagement.

Andrew Sinclair

THE TIMES DIARY

Singalonga Tories

Give the Tories credit for stage management. Taped music was played as a prelude to the Prime Minister's entry at her manifesto-launching press conference. The tunes included *All good things around us are sent from Heaven above. Take a pair of sparkling eyes, Onward Christian Soldiers, Land of Hope and Glory, Rule Britannia* and the Royal Air Force march in that order. There was something familiar, too, about the slogan above Margaret Thatcher's head - "Britain - Strong and Free." It was the one they used back in 1951 when they won back power from Clement Attlee.

Day for night

There is something creepy about the general election campaign in Crawley. Les Allen, the Labour candidate, has put out a special leaflet detailing his plans; these seem to be to spend the mornings in bed since all the timings are shown as pm. So poor old Michael Foot is billed to go walkabout at 11.30pm on Friday, time when most citizens of Crawley have retired for the night, and for June 4 Allen advertises another nocturnal ramble to be followed by a rally beginning at midnight. I am not too surprised to learn that Allen's HQ is a former High Street shop: an old cobbler's.

Dearer Diary?

In a possibly mistaken tribute to the power of the press my local Tory candidate in Hackney South, Peter Croft, has delivered to my home a personalized election address, typed specially for me. A keen student of *The Times*, he claims a record for having had two letters printed within six weeks. He has no illusions about my incorruptibility. One section of the manifesto reads: "The *Times* Diary. If elected to parliament I promise to campaign for massive government grants to this unique national institution and all connected with it..." This is very good, as far as it goes, but I am waiting to see whether Labour or the Alliance will not improve on the offer before June 9.

● A messenger from Conservative Central Office spent 4000 at Labour HQ yesterday buying 1,000 copies of the Labour manifesto. Tory campaign managers are sending copies to all Conservative candidates and to business leaders.

Wendygate?

A hiccup on the *Financial Times* recorded information service yesterday morning jammed the switchboard with calls from all over the world. It was a four-letter hiccup, spat out with great passion by the usually composed young woman who recites news, in place of the rate for the Australian dollar. The voice, which belongs to Wendy Shone, told me, in an unrecorded moment, that there had been a technical error. What sort, I asked. "The technical error was that I said..." she replied, saying it again. I hope they do not use President Nixon as a precedent and impeach her. He, you remember, did not give an expletive deleted about the line.

305 not out

It is two years since Boer War veterans held their last official reunion, but three old soldiers still refuse to fade away. Their latest get-together was arranged last week by the Army Benevolent Fund and British Red Cross. Archie Bowers, who as a trooper in the West Kent Yeomanry fought at Twestfontein on Christmas Day 1901, is now 101. Hubert Wood, aged 99, is pensioned at the Chelsea Hospital, was in the Army Service Corps and is probably unique in having medals from both the Boer War (for which he was really too young) and Second World War (for which he was really too old). But the vote of thanks to Earl Kitchener and others present was given by Bill Bihman, who won six bars to his Queen's South Africa Medal as a member of the Army Medical Corps. He is 105.

Danger man

Man now counts as wildlife, for purposes of the second international Wildlife Film and Television Festival to be held in Bristol next year. Pictures of pack-hunting punks will not be welcome though. The organizers, chaired by Sir Peter Scott, would prefer to see man as an endangered species. "We want Amazon Indians and the like, not the comparative mating habits of Brummi and Londoners," a spokesman helpfully explained.

HP

What a saucer! All is not what it seems in the Houses of Parliament catering facilities. While other caterers are closed, PHEsophologists about West Minister are obliged to use the Westminster Hall staff canteen, known as Plods' because it is much frequented by police. There they find that when approached, the bottles labelled HP Sauce, with Parliament's picture, produce a fearsome brown glow that certainly is not Smalley's product. The theory is that in this case the initials really stand for "horse power".

CORRECTION

This picture of Richard Holmes, political adviser to David Steel, was wrongly captioned on the Spectrum page yesterday.

Party funds: no clear Tory lead

The Conservatives have always been able to out-spend opponents. But that advantage is disappearing, says Michael Pinto-Duschinsky

on out-advancing Labour before the 1979 election. Further heavy deficits were incurred in 1980-1 and 1981-2 (contrary to regular practice, the party accounts for these years have not yet been published). Although the Conservative routine finances are again in balance, the situation still seems to be precarious and it is not surprising that Central Office has avoided costly pre-election advertising on the model of 1957-9, 1963-4, 1969-70 and 1978-9.

A third reason for the new pattern of spending is the increasingly flexible interpretation of election law. Since the Liberals broke with precedent in February 1974, it has come to be accepted that the central party machines may buy newspaper space and posters during general elections provided that their advertisements promote the party as a whole and not individual candidates.

The low level of spending in the run-up to the campaign means that 1983 will be a cheapie-medium election by historical standards (see table). Press speculation about Conservative Central Office spending of £10m or £20m is nonsense. Even if that kind of money could be raised, it would be almost impossible to spend it within the time that is left.

The Conservative failure to match the level of its central spending in

Central spending on general elections (at 1983 values)

	Conservative	Labour
1959	£4.5m	£1.9m
1964	£4.4m	£2.5m
1970	£3.2m	£2.7m
1974 (Feb)	£2.3m	£1.5m
1974 (Oct)	£2.9m	£1.9m
1979	£3.6m	£2.1m
1983	£4m?	£2.5m?

some past elections reflects the gradual erosion of support from large companies whose contributions have fallen during the last decade to keep pace with inflation. Barely 10 per cent of major companies contribute to Central Office, and donations such as £95,810 from British and Commonwealth Shipping in 1981 and £70,000 from Allied Breweries are exceptional. An increasing proportion of central Conservative funds is coming from owners of small businesses and from constituency associations.

By contrast, trade unions have effectively index-linked their payments to the Labour Party. Union political levies now collect £6m a year and there is £6m in the levy funds' reserves. Most of the major unions have agreed to dip cautiously into these reserves to pay for Labour's campaign, though some, such as the miners' union, insist on retaining a substantial independent kitty. The biggest union, the TGWU, will contribute more than £1m to Labour head office (£500,000 to the general election fund, £625,000 in regular affiliation fees), as well as lesser sums at regional and constituency levels.

The municipal workers' contribution to the general election fund is £250,000 (plus about £350,000 in affiliation fees), and NUPE is giving £220,000 (plus £300,000 in affiliation fees). The Labour movement has the muscle to match Tory campaign spending but its traditional financial conservatism means that it will probably be inhibited from doing so.

While the Alliance has failed to win union or business donations (£5,000 from Marks & Spencer and from Thorn have been two exceptions), it has been relatively

successful in attracting individual subscriptions and some hefty individual donations. The Joseph Rowntree Social Service Trust contributed £91,867 to various Liberal-SDP funds in 1982 and has allocated considerably more for the election. An important SDP benefactor is David Sainsbury, and the Liberals have attracted five-figure sums from at least three donors. In financial terms, the Alliance is in a far healthier position now than were the Liberals in 1979, when their central election fund totalled £200,000.

Not all the central budgets will be devoted to advertising. Labour and the Alliance will earmark about a quarter of their funds for subsidies to parliamentary candidates. The Tories and Labour are likely to spend heavily on private opinion polls and on producing films for the important party political broadcasts.

At the local level, the spending limit for parliamentary candidates has been raised to about £4,500 for an average size constituency. In marginal seats, most candidates of the main parties can be expected to spend to the limit. Eighty per cent of the money will be used for printing election addresses, literature and small posters.

Traditionally, the Tories could rely on easily out-spending their opponents. This financial advantage has been gradually disappearing. Though Central Office hopes to spend more than Labour's Head Office in the coming weeks, its ability to do so will depend on whether it can first raise the money. In any case, the advertising power of the major parties is likely to be sufficiently balanced (particularly if account is taken of the value of free time for party political broadcasts) to make the style and contents of their messages the decisive factors.

Michael Pinto-Duschinsky, lecturer in government at Brunel University, is the author of *British Political Finance 1830-1980*.

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Keeping your head up in a crisis

JUNE 24 83

Barbara Castle

In the early days of this election campaign and yet the Labour Party has already begun to creep forward steadily. For one thing the Conservatives, in an overcalculating strategy, have decided for some curious reason to be last from the starting post, last in the publication of their manifesto and last in the launching of the traditional morning press conference. One of their highly-paid PR advisers had obviously told them they must not peak too soon.

The danger now is they will not peak at all. They left the field clear for their opponents for several days and on Monday the Labour Party took full advantage of the opportunity. While Mrs Thatcher was doing a "Maggie may" over whether she would fly to the Williamsburg summit by Concorde rather than disappoint her ally, Ronald Reagan, Michael Foot, Denis Healey and Peter Shore were spelling out the gritty reality of Labour's economic policy to a crowded press conference at Transport House. The room was so packed that the media men and women were standing round the walls.

Even the self-appointed scourge of Labour, Paul Johnson, scrambled to get a seat. And whatever those men and women wrote in their papers the next day (and Paul Johnson, for one, could not wait to get on his hate machine), there can be no doubt they were impressed. As one of them said to me afterwards: "Very well organized", adding wryly "and very high minded". It is a charge that Labour will face with equanimity.

The occasion was above all a demonstration of Labour's growing self-confidence. The eagerness with which Denis Healey and Peter Shore stood with each other in his bare awkward bowing showed that the party's leaders have no hang-ups about the alternative economic strategy. They were in to win. And they only dwelt on Mrs Thatcher's economic failures in order to prove how much scope there is for financing reflation without pushing up interest rates or the cost of living. The statistics of hope rolled out of them remorselessly. It was as though three years of ideological trauma in the Labour Party were being dissolved in a restored sense of moral and political superiority.

And over it all presided the party's new general secretary, Jim Mortimer, whose calm competence seemed living proof that the traumas were just a vanished dream.

For Mrs Thatcher the week has not been such a happy one. Suddenly she is beginning to look vulnerable to accidents. It began with the revelation in *The Sunday Times* last weekend that the apparent spontaneity of her big speech on Monday was in fact a fake. Her campaign managers it appears, have discovered a technical device, known as a 'Head Up Display' Unit, which enables her to deliver her carefully prepared purple passages without looking down at her script.

Tomorrow: John Pardoe

Ronald Butt

Labour versus the new optimism

For the sake of unity, a number of those commonly called moderates in Labour's collective leadership gave their approval to the party's left-wing manifesto. Even a few of the right-wing moderates, who fight against the commitments which they disagreed in principle. Roy Hattersley, for instance, disapproves of Britain's leaving the Common Market but blithely tells a radio audience that he is loyal to his colleagues' policy on the ground that it is not central to the campaign and that anyway he finds it somewhat harder to justify his own position than he did.

Similarly, Denis Healey dislikes but justifies the commitment to unilateral nuclear disarmament and tries to gloss the policy in his own way, stressing also a quick delivery of an incomes policy for which the manifesto gives no warrant. For all I know, he also dislikes the commitments to abolish the Second Chamber, prohibit field sports and forbid parents to withhold their children from state schools by paying fees at those which are independent. But he is not a politician who is much interested in such things. He prefers to assess the importance of subjects according to whether they are discussed at what Sir Harold Wilson used to call the world's top tables, or domestically at the Labour high tables where union leaders can be comfortably seated.

If it were for the sake of a popular and election-winning manifesto that these and others had sunk their own convictions one could understand it. But why have they done so for this one, which they know to be deeply unpopular?

In part, the moderates' self-denial reflects a natural urge of old comrades to unite around the flag of old loyalty on the eve of battle. But there is more to it than that. They get into this position as part of the series of compromise they thought necessary to maintain their own position during the long struggle against the left; they could not have got out of this position now without openly rocking the boat; and they do not want to give their left-wing colleagues any excuse for blaming them on such grounds for the election defeat that they do not think could be averted anyway.

In a defeat for which they are not held responsible, however, they see a kind of safety - safety from the left-wing programme which (if they failed to water it down) would worry some of them; safety from the blame which, they hope, will fall instead on the left in defeat; the moderates will hope for the chance of a new beginning.

Tony Samstag

David Nicholson-Lord on the British implications of an Italian disaster



Effect and cause: A four-year-old girl burned in the 1976 blast and, a year later, protectively garbed workers continuing reclamation operations at the chemical plant



How Seveso's poison could be dumped on our politicians

until 36 drums of cyanide were found near a children's play area in Nuneaton in early 1972. Some five weeks later the Deposit of Poisonous Waste Act was rushed on to the statute book, laying down a system of notification which, as expanded by the Control of Pollution Act to include site licensing, provides the basis of the present controls.

A series of subsequent incidents has shown, however, that though the Act was an overall improvement, the system remains leaky. County waste disposal officers will regulate you with tales of cowboy operators, badly managed tips leaking into water courses or distributing litter and fumes over the surrounding countryside, of entire consignments going missing, of mislabelling and confusion over contents of containers, of waste arriving unannounced from abroad and having to be got rid of at public expense.

Given the proliferation of new chemicals and the tendency of officials to interact unpredictably and violently, it is hardly surprising that more people are taking a dim view of toxic tipping near their homes. Sites are thus increasingly scarce and waste is having to travel greater distances, multiplying the risks.

The EEC has now stepped in with a proposed directive to regulate, for

the first time, the growing European toxic waste traffic - three million tonnes a year across member-state frontiers. It broadly provides that authorities in the receiving country should be informed of plans to send a consignment, and given time to object. But whether it would prevent some of the more bizarre elements of the Seveso dioxin controversy, particularly the deplorable cloak-and-dagger antics - is doubtful. No standard definitions of waste have been agreed, powers of veto are unclear and the month allowed for objections is seen as insufficient. But it is the proposal on waste for recycling, that raises the most fundamental implications.

It is a truism that one industry's waste is another's raw material. Trade in such secondary materials, according to the CBI, contributes £1,200m to the balance of payments. The Department of the Environment says that in 1980, 290,000 tonnes classed as waste in the country of origin arrived in Britain, but of that only 5,000 tonnes was "genuine waste" destined for ultimate destruction.

Subjecting all this traffic to the proposed checks would, argue both the DoE and the CBI, penalise recycling. But, say the counties, recycling is frequently just a cover used to import waste nobody else wants and which is promptly dumped on arrival. Hence the charges that Britain is becoming the dump of Europe. The Government has thus promised discretionary powers to treat waste for "recycling" as "genuine" waste. The counties in reply say the powers would be of little value unless they know of the waste's existence in the first place - which, if the Government has its way, they would not.

The Government argues that, if Britain has the facilities to destroy the worst waste, as it has in the case of dioxin, should it not provide jobs, earn foreign exchange and perform a great service to the European environment by so doing? This argument elicits a wry smile from environmentalists. In an era of growing environmental awareness, the political ecological wisdom of setting up shop as a national waste disposal service is at the least debatable.

Muddle, secrecy and cynicism have characterized the Seveso affair from its beginnings. The handling of its waste has sadly proved no exception. It is not, however, the final chapter, which has yet to be written by epidemiologists and ecologists as the poison works its way through the metabolism of Lombardy. Similarly, in Britain, government scientists and civil servants will be keeping their fingers crossed that the years of neglect do not have some far more unpleasant surprises in store for us. If the built-dioxin fiasco does no more than expose the loopholes in present controls, it will have performed a noteworthy service.

man should not be underestimated. They are the building blocks of food chains, nutrient cycles, soil structure; they fertilize, pollinate, scavenge and are eaten, often as not by us. Shrimps alone may represent the most commercially valuable stock of all wild animals, while the least likely marine invertebrates already yield a veritable pharmacopoeia.

But it is the endangered species that have not yet even been discovered, let alone studied, that worry the conservationists most. Something very like Tartar's Stentor might well hold the cure for cancer, of the guarantee of nourishment for mankind's teeming billions. "An increase in public awareness of the need for invertebrate conservation is a high priority," write the compilers, "because of this most innovative and absorbing of the Red Data books."

Putting backbone into conservation

Tartar's Stentor is an unlovely fellow, the sort of creepy-crawly that heaves into view under magnification in a drop of pond water and grows up, if it is lucky, to star in a video nasty as something from outer space with a predilection for blondes.

Even its friends, who know it more formally as *Stentor introitus* for its ability "to retract the oral end of its body completely", are hard put to suppress a smile as they ponder the likeliest reason for its probable extinction: it is being trampled to death by geese.

The geese are attracted to a small pond, Tartar's only known habitat, in the eastern shore of Willapa Bay in south-western Washington state, USA, which has been set up as a wildlife refuge. Too many geese spoil the pond, fouling the water and disrupting the vegetation. *S. introitus*, alas, has not been sighted since 1970.

The sad tale of Tartar's Stentor is unfortunately typical of much such that the compilers of an extraordinary book on the subject, published this week, chose that species as representative of at least 65,000

others. They are protozoa, single-celled animals and the simplest of those known as invertebrates, or animals without backbones. The *Invertebrate Red Data Book* makes the point (if only by indirection) that while such higher forms of life as Prince Philip and David Attenborough are busy around saving the tiger, the less charismatic, but potentially much more valuable invertebrates are dying like... well, like flies.

The book is published by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), a learned global quango that normally leaves no stone unturned in its efforts to collect data on endangered species and their habitats, but more than 30 years passed before it turned its attention to the invertebrates, even though they are thought to comprise more than three-quarters of all living things.

Heroic feats of selectivity must have been required to decide which would live between the pages of the *Red Data Book* and which would be consigned to oblivion. Among the compilers' favourites was the mag-

nificent giant Gippsland earthworm of Victoria, Australia, which is said to make, all 12h of it, "a gurgling sucking sound" as it burrows, and to emit "an odour resembling crocodile which may repel birds, although the kookaburra is known to eat them".

The authors also had a bit of a giggle over the Fairfax County Planarians, two species of flatworm known only from a single spring in one American state and both probably extinct "as a result of development of the locality into a parking area".

There are, inevitably, a few superstars even in this unprepossessing suburb of the animal kingdom: the delicious noble crayfish, for example, once among the most abundant in Europe but decimated since the last century by the dreaded crayfish plague and by pollution. Invertebrates can be surprisingly resilient. Another species of flatworm, for example, has survived in its cave "despite regular visits by large numbers of people using it as a meeting place for a Masonic order".

But seriously: "The importance of invertebrates in ecological processes and as a living resource of benefit to

A year ago, it was the left that appeared to view defeat with comparative equanimity, believing that one more lost election would give it the chance to extrude the moderates and finally capture the party for a more Marxist socialism. But so great have been their recent successes that victory this time would virtually be on their programme, while a Conservative victory could enable Margaret Thatcher, with popular consent, to establish the conditions for an irreversibly free society. The left now wants to win.

As for the moderates, win or lose, they must put up a good show in the campaign, hoping if they did win to be able to pull the old trick of jettisoning in power some of the extremist commitments forced on them in opposition. The commitments are so precise, however, that it is hard to see how they could.

Labour's vision is of a world of spending and borrowing by the state which is somehow free of the consequences that would follow for businesses and private individuals. In contrast the Conservative manifesto sets out the idea of a nation which is able to pull the old trick of the kind of direct responsibility which we all know is never stronger than when it is exercised through commitment to the smaller group, whether the family or the small business.

Beneath and more important than any of the Tory manifesto's details is its theme of calling back the responsibility of the individual which has for so long been suppressed by the demands of the state. The nation is invited to act on what it already knows, that state power has not delivered the goods. As for the Conservative versus Labour battle, this is what the election is about, and the question should be settled decisively.

The evidence, including Mrs Thatcher's popularity against all the apparent odds, is that the majority, including millions of so-called working-class people welcome the new responsibility. If Mrs Thatcher can make possible a prosperous, high-wage economy leading to more jobs and giving the individual full responsibility for what he or she can do, without diminishing the community's responsibility for what it must do, she will keep that support.

The nation seems to be in the mood for what the Tories offer. It is a new mood and it is so manifestly a sign of hopefulness that I cannot begin to think why Peter Shore should choose to call it the new pessimism.



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

SOME WAY STILL TO GO

Self-confidence and self-respect are two fundamental ingredients of a stable society. They may not be quantifiable with the standard statistical methods used in modern political argument. But they must be an important factor behind this Government's current position in the opinion polls. Consequently the Conservative manifesto, published yesterday, has some difficulty in listing its measurable achievements, as opposed to talking credit for the favourable atmosphere it has started to create. After four years the Government can claim that "national recovery has begun". Yes, but only a modest beginning, it seems. The whole essence of this manifesto is to suggest that the last four years have enabled only the groundwork to be completed. It will take at least another Parliament journeying on towards that kind of society which Conservatives were voting for when they elected Mrs Thatcher in 1979.

The manifesto sets out its priorities as defence, employment and economic prosperity. On defence this Government, in its conduct of the Falklands war, has given incontrovertible evidence that it has the will and the capacity to meet threats to British security. Moreover, in the age of deterrence when so much depends on intentions, the Government's quick response to the Falklands invasion recognised the importance of being seen to be ready to defend oneself, and not just to talk about it.

The Falklands episode clearly ranks as one of the Government's main achievements. The other is the reduction in the rate of inflation from ten per cent (rising) in May 1979 to four per cent today. Employment is less of a success story. Since the Full Employment White Paper of 1944 the number of unemployed has been seen as an important benchmark of success or failure for a Government's economic policy. Since 1964 the gradual rise in unemployment has thus progressively shown all governments' failure to fulfil that particular promise.

Since 1979, the only real success this Government can claim in the field of employment and unemployment, is to have established that there are other factors beyond any government's reasonable control which determine the level of employment.

The two main factors are world economic conditions and the rate of pay determined by the activities of organized labour at all levels of the market and not just at the bottom end governed by Wages Councils. In the last eighteen months, for instance, British unemployment has been rising at half the rate of the average in the OECD, so mass unemployment is indeed a western phenomenon which only a general upturn in the world economy will mitigate. Moreover the unemployment levels in western Europe are substantially masked by the initial capacity to absorb immigrants, and by the fact that young people who here go from school to the dole, on the continent become conscripts.

Nevertheless the high and persistent level of unemployment represents a political failure of some kind by this Government, which is not dispelled by yesterday's manifesto. It is quite right to perceive that inflation was and always will be a more pervasive social illness than unemployment. That is because unemployment tends only to affect pockets of society, while inflation corrupts the whole basis of the currency on which all society depends for its transaction. It is also because governments can do more about curbing inflation than they can about curing unemployment.

It is true that the Government is spending an extra £2 billion this year on special training measures for unemployed people. It is also true that a sound money policy, and dismantling restrictions in the labour market, should create economic conditions for more jobs. However we are still left with too little idea of how and when this might be achieved, and too little recognition of the need to make the sacrifices of the last four years seem worthwhile to those who have borne the brunt of the sacrifice.

Those people are the twelve workers in every one hundred who have no work. Of course the 88 people in each hundred who do have work are the important majority whose taxes are providing for the other twelve, and their contribution cannot be ignored either. But even if this Government's economic policies achieve a sustained expansion with stable prices, unemployment will not be going away. In

those circumstances the Government should be speaking more and doing more to recognize that the structure of British industrial society is undergoing a sea-change towards a condition of fluidity in which the stark alternative of work or no work will eventually become irrelevant.

That is a prospect which needs to be prepared for with more vision and optimism than has yet been provided by ministers. There is enough evidence that many people outside politics already recognize that fact. Contrary to what Mr Hesley thinks, it is not pessimistic to accept that in the course of this change unemployment is unavoidable. It is realistic; and once realism has crept in, can optimism be far behind?

Beyond these priorities there are other policies which will receive more detailed examination on these pages. The proposals for trade union reform are consistent and necessary as a next stage. Those concerned with the abolition of the GLC and the Metropolitan Councils reflect a laudable concern to stop municipal excesses, particularly of the Livingstone kind, but something must surely be retained to give expression to London as the nation's capital. These proposals will have to be accompanied by careful redistribution of the functions exercised by those authorities, since the functions will remain after the authorities have gone.

This is a cautious manifesto, carefully worded to see that it threatens nobody with a radical cutting edge, while asserting in moderate language the underlying principles which have inspired this government's efforts to change direction. Those efforts have been commendable, though slow. After four years it is certainly chastening to feel that a government, even one led by such a determined Prime Minister, has encountered so many difficulties in its journey away from the collectivist approach to one based more on the responsibilities and challenges of a society of individuals. As the manifesto says, "There is some way to go yet before this country has regained that self-renewing capacity for growth which once made her a great economic power, and will make her great again". There is indeed.

NO BURDEN OF BLAME

When a modern steel ship of 1400 tons drifts onto the rocks and a lifeboat sent to help is smashed like crockery, with every soul on both vessels drowned, on the coasts of a country whose search and rescue services are reputed to be among the best in the world, the first instinct is to ask whose fault it was. It is a healthy instinct, for the pretext of an Act of God can gloss over a multitude of errors which need to be identified and avoided in future. But it is important in the search for them to distinguish between error of judgment and culpable fault. It is obvious from yesterday's report by the Commissioner of Wrecks into the Penlee disaster that many decisions which might have been made differently with hindsight contributed to the double shipwreck; its finding that no-one was to blame has not satisfied those who predicted from the start that it would be no more than a whitewash.

The central witness, the master of the Union Star, died when the ship overturned. So there will never be an answer to the questions why so strange a calm apparently existed on board almost to the end. And did he ever understand the significance of his failure to use the word "Mayday" which the coastguards were waiting for as the signal to launch the lifeboat? Eventually they gave the order without it, an

exceptional step. It might or might not have made all the difference if their initiative had come earlier; an unnecessary launch in such weather would have put more lives at risk to no purpose. It does appear that there were failures of communication between ship and coast-guard and lifeboat, and the report recommends that the regulations should be re-examined to avoid ambiguities. But it is the way of crisis to expose weaknesses of this kind, and there is no suggestion of culpability in this.

The most serious suggestion of blame against anyone on shore pointed at those who set in train the reorganization of coastguard services which had come into effect at Land's End only four weeks before the disaster. It involved the downgrading of the local coastguard station and centralization of services at Falmouth, 25 miles away. The arguments here were not good, for the chairman of the inquiry announced at the start that he did not interpret his terms of reference (which asked, among other things: "What steps if any should be taken to prevent the recurrence of a similar casualty?") as allowing him to make recommendations about reinstating the local station. An early warning to similar but more comprehensive effect from the Department of Trade's

counsel helped to raise fears of a whitewash. If the effects of the reorganization did contribute to the disaster, it would certainly have been the chairman's duty to say so.

In fact he considers the possibility with some care, and rejects it on grounds which seem adequate. The coastguard service itself insists that the reorganization, which attracted much local opposition even before the disaster, was not a cost-cutting exercise but a change made necessary by the need to co-ordinate and take full advantage of modern information-gathering techniques. But although Penlee does not discredit the reorganization, the outcry over it is a symptom of discontent and uncertainty left by a whole series of reorganizations in recent years, intensified only a few weeks ago by reports (since denied) that the Government had been considering yet another transformation with more frankly cost-cutting motives. Apart from its more immediate lessons, Penlee should stand as a warning to policy makers of the effects on morale of constant tinkering. They should consider the public reaction if some future tragedy did prove to have occurred because the service had been run down to save money, and brave men sacrificed for the sake of a few thousand pounds.

A vote for shame in quitting EEC

From Mr Cosmo Russell
Sir, The case for withdrawal from the EEC, supported by the Labour Party, is argued entirely from the angle of erroneously conceived British interest and with total disregard for the attitude and feelings of Britain's partners.

The procedure is inept: it proposes first repeal of an Act of Parliament whereby Britain undertook to adhere to the Community with the obligations entailed, which were later confirmed by a national referendum under a Labour Government.

After repeal the next step is a costly negative negotiation with partners just repudiated. How can anyone imagine that our partners would wish to waste time on such negotiation when the Community, with or without us, has so many positive tasks to perform including the admission of Spain and Portugal?

If we wished to go into European Community the short answer would be to do so, at once. Yet no one should lose sight of the overwhelming sense of loss, bitterness and betrayal accompanying a British intention to withdraw.

If we forget our partners have memories. They still recall that European Union was chartered on this side of the Channel by Winston Churchill and Ernest Bevin. When we joined the Community in 1973 it was for ever. We should not have been admitted otherwise because the Treaty does not provide for withdrawal.

The ways in which reputation comes hurt are legion, but just as bad for the British people would be the slur of shame and betrayal. The trouble is that, in voting Labour, few would realise that this was a vote for shame, perhaps a vote against the peace that has always been the aim of European Union.

To avoid this slur on the British people and to correct their own passing stupidity the Labour leadership should openly abandon the withdrawal intention before polling day.

Yours etc.
COSMO RUSSELL,
Parapet House,
Lenham,
Kent.
May 9.

Doubtful claim

From Mr G. H. Clifford
Sir, I read the double-page advertisement on pages 8 and 9 of your issue of today (May 18). It was (it says) published by Conservative Central Office. Point 15 (the last) reads as follows:

"I understand that if I sign this now I will not be able to change my mind for at least five years".

As a voter, this suggests to me that a constitutional revolution is envisaged whereby the Labour Party might deny me my constitutional rights.

I do not believe that this is the case and regard this clause as a slander on the many reputable politicians in the Labour Party.

Yours faithfully,
G. H. CLIFFORD,
7 Hever Gardens,
Bromley,
Kent.

Post-coital pill

From Dr Philippa Linklater
Sir, Dr J. O. Drife (May 5) attempts to justify the abortifacient action of the post-coital pill by arguing that 70 per cent of embryos are lost spontaneously in early pregnancy and that the post-coital pill "interferes with nature only by making it more likely that this natural process will occur".

Even if this estimated figure of 70 per cent was true (and it is not) this extraordinary argument that one is at liberty to imitate mother nature would allow murder on the ground that natural death is, after all, very common.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIPPA LINKLATER,
Kingsland, Fingringhoe, Essex.

Counterfeit Dracula

From Mr H. A. Prins
Sir, The findings of Drs Hemphill and Zabow (Medical Briefing, May 6) are of interest. However, they are probably in error in citing Haigh, the acid bath murderer, as an example of a blood drinker. In his detailed account of Haigh and his trial, the late Dr Lindsey Neustatter (*The Mind of the Murderer*, chapter 11) provides confirmation that the only evidence for Haigh's practice was his own account.

Media coverage of the Lebanon war

From Rabbi David J. Goldberg
Sir, Your editorial, "Friends beyond the need" (May 16), was peevish, querulously defensive and either deliberately or naively irresponsible. In seeking to rebut charges of bias and distortion in media coverage of the Lebanon war you succumbed precisely to those tactics of innuendo and generalization which you deplored when used by Mr Begin's apologists against Western press and television.

You concede that "there was obviously some stage management of television films and some newspaper reporting". Given that the war in Lebanon divided Jewish opinion, in Israel and the diaspora, more bitterly and agonizingly than any other event in the state's history, one was not helped in reaching objective conclusions either by reporting which accepted wholesale inflated Palestinian estimates of dead and homeless and failed to differentiate between Jewish damage and that caused during the previous six years of civil war, or by the equally skewed statistics emanating from Jerusalem.

It is altogether too cavalier to dismiss the criticism thus aroused on the grounds that "nobody thanks the messenger who brings bad news". The news was bad - terrible - but often reported with such partisanship, emotionalism, ignorance of background history, commendable sympathy for the plight of Palestinian refugees and patent distaste for Mr Begin personally, that in the end it was impossible to retain any sort of perspective.

You defend, quite rightly, your

own Middle East correspondent. I happen to believe that Robert Fisk is a reporter of integrity, sensitivity and evident "feel" for the area. However, as the siege of Beirut dragged on throughout last July, with little outward change, his pieces concentrated more and more on character vignettes and *obiter dicta* of the participants.

These, however, are relatively minor issues. Altogether more sinister was your statement that Mr Begin's policies have strained to its limits the principle of "our country right or wrong" which previously bound most Jewish opinion behind Israel. Your inference is, of course, that diaspora Jews owe a greater loyalty to Israel than to their own countries and you compound the slur by referring to us further on as "expatriates", a description which I, and all other Jewish citizens of the United Kingdom, deeply resent.

I cannot believe that the leader writers of *The Times* are unaware that it is this charge which has been levelled against us by antisemites ever since our emancipation in the early nineteenth century and which was exploited by, among others, Nazi propagandists.

In reviving it to respond to no doubt tiresome and excessively strident Jewish cries of media bias you have hit back in a way which raises suspicions of latent prejudice.

Might I suggest that a retraction, or apology, is called for?
Yours faithfully,
DAVID J. GOLDBERG,
The Liberal Jewish Synagogue,
28 St John's Wood, NW8.
May 17.

The students noted that the ANC had accepted the 1977 protocols of the Geneva Convention agreeing to treat captured South African soldiers as prisoners of war and reaffirming its commitment to attacking non-civilian targets only. They pointed out that the South African Government had refused to accept the 1977 protocols and continued to "treat its political opponents as criminals."

Their statement continued: "... A state of low-intensity civil war exists in South Africa and the actions of the six must be seen in this context. ... The conflict arises from a legacy of injustice and oppression and the absence of effective constitutional channels for change."

We wish also to point out that the six men stated in court that they were severely tortured while in detention and before being charged. It was largely on the basis of their statements obtained under "interrogation" that the state based its case. These men have now been in the death cells for many months and appeals for clemency need to be made with the greatest urgency.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD AGLAND,
A. J. AYER,
FRANK BROCKWAY,
JAMES CALLAGHAN,
HUGH CARADON,
HUGH CARRON,
CHITNIS,
NICHOLAS DUMMETT,
JOHN HATCH,
DENIS HEALEY.

British Defence and Aid Fund for Southern Africa,
104-5 Newgate Street, EC1.
May 10.

A shifting arch

From Mrs Jane Van Tassel
Sir, I am afraid that Mr Wilkinson's "symmetrical arch of nuclear deterrence" (May 12) is the perfect prescription for a continuing nuclear arms race. The push from military men, ever fearful that the "enemy" is getting ahead, combined with the inexorable pull from scientific endeavour, will ensure that neither side's arch can remain fixed.

Witness the deployment of Pershing 2 and cruise missiles in response to SS20s. We can be sure that the Soviets will deploy some new system in response to these, and so on ad infinitum.

Yours faithfully,
JANE VAN TASSEL,
4 Oswald Terrace,
Sturton Street,
Cambridge.
May 13.

The chaplain's role

From Captain J. F. R. Weir, RN
Sir, On Friday (May 13) your Religious Correspondent tried to stir it up among the Service chaplains. Captain Ward's letter today (May 14) gives a more realistic slant.

As to "civilian clerical dress", no chaplain in the Royal Navy before the war would have worn anything else nor has their uniform since ever carried badges of rank. This was not to emphasise "their separation from military aims and objects", but to stress their pastoral role ministering to wardroom and lower deck alike.

That just as my four chaplains (C of E, Methodist and RC) at HMS Raleigh in the late sixties said their office together every day, so am I sure that chaplains today of all denominations

technicians are openly welcomed to convey the message to every corner of the world.

What is the message? "If you dare oppose by force our intervention and intrusion into Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Afghanistan (and tomorrow, perhaps, in West Berlin, Yugoslavia, Iran, Central America, Syria) this is the devastation and holocaust you will be inviting upon yourselves".

Only the deaf can fail to hear this threat and ignore the extent to which it would be amplified if the nuclear balance were suddenly swung massively in Soviet Russia's favour. The implications for the free world are too self-evident to need elaboration.

Caring homes for parish records

From Mr Hugh Peskett
Sir, As I drafted Lord Tevior's Bill, which was read twice in the House of Lords before its essential provisions reached the statute book as the 1978 Measure, I am in a position to comment on Mr Harrington's article (May 7) and Mr Pattinson's letter (May 16).

Your readers may not all be aware that parish records include not only registers of baptism, marriage and burial, but also many other records, from poor relief to highway maintenance and tax collection, a relic of the times when a parish had major civil functions.

The 1978 Measure provides, essentially, that all older records must either be deposited in a record office or retained by the parish under tight security against fire and theft and conditions of controlled temperature and humidity. They are the property of the parochial church council, but a portion of the search fees are part of "parson's freehold". On the other hand, if the clergyman himself receives those fees, the sum is normally discounted from his next stipend payment, so he gains nothing.

Most clergymen now consider that caring for archives is not part of the cure of souls; a Devon rector once told me he wished that his clients worried as much about where they were going to as mine worried about where they came from. Before the Measure, however, I could cite, *inter alia*, a northern canon who claimed that register search fees kept him in colour television and a southern vicar who consigned his records to the council rubbish tip; but all this is history.

Mr Harrington advocates the compulsory deposit of parish records in archives. When I drafted the original Bill I and those working with me were opposed to this on principle. It was not because we had read too much Trollope, to fear trespassing on parson's freehold, but because we were seeking only careful custody and were against divorcing records too much from their local context.

The Measure is working well and achieving its purpose, albeit slowly. Compulsory central deposit of parish records (in emulation of East Germany) is neither necessary nor desirable.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH PESKETT,
Debreit Ancestry Research Ltd,
Gordon Road,
Winchester.
May 17.

Budget balance

From Mr Wynne Godley and Mr Francis Cripps

Sir, Your reviewer's discussion (May 12) of our book on macroeconomics contains a serious mistake. He claims we overlook the fact that inflation will cut real income and spending unless the Government takes deliberate steps to counteract this effect by expanding its own Budget deficit. But our book shows that provided real interest rates are maintained (i.e., average nominal returns on financial assets go up or down with the rate of inflation) inflation has no "natural" depressing effect on real income or spending.

Of course the nominal Budget deficit goes up when there is inflation. Our point is that the whole financial system can expand in nominal terms without any change in real variables, including the real (inflation-accounted) Budget deficit.

It is an ancient prejudice to suppose that "real balance" effects cut demand; such effects acting on liabilities as well as on assets may equally well be neutral or indeed augment demand - unless, that is, the monetary authorities intervene to enforce nominal money targets through real Budget surpluses.

The point is not entirely academic. Since 1979 there has been a real Budget surplus (and a corresponding fall in the purchasing power of the total public debt) which has aggravated recession in Britain and elsewhere. Indeed no general recovery can be sustainable until and unless there is real fiscal expansion here and in other countries, including the USA.

Please will Professor Peston have another look at chapters 11 and 12. *Yours faithfully,*
WYNNE GODELEY,
FRANCIS CRIPPS,
Department of Applied Economics,
University of Cambridge,
Sedgwick Avenue,
Cambridge.
May 13.

Getting the message

From Mr Patrick Roper
Sir, At 8.30 this morning, as I was driving to work, I had a sudden urge to buy a copy of *The Times* something, I regret to say, I have not done for many years. There was no reason that I can think of for this particular decision.

I was delighted to find the fascinating article about morphological resonance by Peter Lewis on the Spectrum page (May 6). While I had never heard of Dr Rupert Sheldrake, or his theory, this whole area of evolution and development is a topic that has commanded my attention for a long time.

Could it be that the large number of readers that must have studied this article prior to 8.30 am had set up a resonance field that impelled me to buy a copy of your newspaper?

Yours faithfully (sic),
PATRICK ROPER,
South View,
Sedlescombe,
Battle, East Sussex.
May 6.

Air travel injuries

From Professor Bin Cheng
Sir, Your timely leader of May 11, "Fly now, lose later," rightly points out that "pending fresh international agreement, international law continues in effect to discriminate against the travelling public" in the matter of compensation for personal injuries sustained in air travel.

However, the interim solution you recommended of the British Government "taking a leaf out of the American book" and imposing unilaterally on foreign airlines carrying passengers to or from the United Kingdom liability limits higher than those laid down in the Warsaw Convention as amended at The Hague (a solution endorsed by the Pearson report in its paragraph 1131) is open to the criticism that has already been levelled against the United States, namely, such unilateral action is incompatible with a state's obligations under the Warsaw Convention, especially in conjunction with its obligations under any treaty which grants a right to the

foreign airlines concerned to fly into the country.

An alternative solution would be the promotion of an international treaty which will in the first place adopt the principle of absolute liability (strict liability according to the Pearson report, paragraphs 1127-8) which was first introduced by the United States in the Montreal Inter-Carrier Agreement of 1966 referred to in your leader, and which has worked well in practice, by requiring airlines, irrespective of fault, to indemnify all passengers who suffer injuries in their air travel.

Secondly, under it, the passengers will be compensated to the same extent to which they would have been able to recover from the airlines, had the airlines been held legally liable, without any arbitrary limitation of liability. Such a solution would reduce litigation and delays in settlement, avoid hardships and save airlines money in the end (cf Pearson report, para 1130).

Meanwhile, the same effect can also be achieved by airlines themselves, if necessary with some

encouragement, voluntarily waiving, in the event of passengers suffering injury, their right to invoke articles 20 and 22 (1) of the Warsaw Convention as amended at The Hague.

Insofar as those airlines which resist any change in the present system are concerned, the reasoning behind your final recommendation of "fly British" must surely convince them that, in the long run, their failure to pay passengers who are injured the full amount of the compensation which they would have been legally liable to pay but for the Warsaw Convention would eventually cause passengers to switch, wherever possible, to airlines that do. It would, therefore, surely be in their own interest to take part in such an agreement.

Yours faithfully,
B. CHENG,
Professor of Air and Space Law,
Faculty of Laws,
University College,
4-8 Endsleigh Gardens, WC1.
May 12.

The Hitler diaries

From Mr William Douglas-Home
Sir, One cannot help admiring Lord Dacre's handsome apology (feature, May 14) regarding the part he took in the saga of the Hitler diaries, but why have he and his fellow historians thrown in the towel so easily?

None of them seem to have considered the fact that, although the use of postwar ink and paper could well be proof that they are forgeries, it could be proof, equally, that Hitler survived the war and wrote them, in retirement, with contemporary equipment.

I am, Sir, yours etc.
WILLIAM DOUGLAS-HOME,
Drytown House,
East Meon, Hampshire.



...the

THE ARTS

Irving Wardle investigates the blossoming of pastiche and parody in a theatre growing free of bigotry

Yesterday's idols spectacularly relaunched

Parody may be the sincerest form of flattery when it comes to Max Beerbohm taking the pants off Swinburne, or Evelyn Waugh doing his Pater number, but how does that apply to the highly topical *Daisy Pulls It Off* at the Globe, Shaftesbury Avenue, of a plucky girl in a gynae being cheered to the roof by spectators most of whom would not be caught dead reading the works of Angela Brazil?

There are various theories going the rounds on how Daisy has managed to pull it off in defiance of some reviewers who saw Denise Dregan's play in Southampton and promised to eat their boaters if it got into the West End. One theory ascribes Daisy's success to the English playgoer's tendency to look gloomy. Another discerns a charge of political dynamite stashed away behind the Elizabethan panels of Grange School. Here we have a scholarship girl, gate-crashing an exclusive, tradition-bound institution, and giving the inmates a few lessons in team spirit, individual enterprise and unswerving belief that what is good for the school is good for the country. Daisy may come from the East End, but you

can bet she had some relatives in Grantham.

It would be interesting to have Miss Dregan's response to this reading of her innocent account of midnight feasts, classroom intrigue and pickled battles with loaded hot-water bottles (with every detail you remember it sounds more like the House of Commons). But I am inclined to discount it, if only for the reason that Daisy is not the only girl on the field.

Properly speaking, the field is not that of parody but of pastiche, and it shows marked signs of becoming a growth area. Examples over the past few years are not exactly numerous, but every one of them has found a willing public. Digging into the remote past, you find Daisy's ancestors among the finishing school lovelies of *The Boy Friend*, now embalmed behind the double glazing of the Twenties and the Fifties. More to the point, we have lately had the Marx Brothers recreated by Dick Vosburgh in *A Night in the Ukraine*, Chandler's Philip Marlowe resurrected to business by Roger Mitchell and Richard Maher in *Private Dick*, and Holmes and Watson tackling the Mystery of the

Cherry Orchard in the same authors' *The White Glove*. Vanbrugh and Sheridan, meanwhile, have been getting the treatment from Alan Ayckbourn in his rewritten *A Trip to Scarborough*.

Alongside the work of pastiche writers, there is the parallel phenomenon of directorial pastiche, as seen in the revivals of *Charley's Aunt* and *Mr Cinders* and *The Pirates of Penzance*.

If there is one thing those otherwise random titles have in common it is that they all contain elements familiar to people who never go to the theatre or read books. To come clean over this, I have never read Angela Brazil or Conan Doyle; a lack which in no way blunts my enjoyment of *Daisy* or *The White Glove*.

I cannot pretend to the Brazilian scholarship of specialists like Arthur Marshall or Isabel Quigly, whose eyebrows might rise at some of Miss Dregan's upper-fourth slang and her questionable decision to let a Russian music teacher loose among the top-drawn maidens of England. But, like everybody else, I know that Grange School is going to reward

Daisy with aristocratic parentage as well as a win on the hockey field; just as I know that halfway through *The White Glove* Holmes is going to get the scent on seemingly innocent business and return under the cover of dark glasses and a big black hat.

Not everything in folklore is amenable to pastiche. Shakespeare and the Bible may be common property, but they are outside Miss Dregan's range. You can make savage fun of them, but you cannot give them a fresh lease of life. It is not a trick that can be played on these giant cultural totems. The only subjects that qualify for the treatment are those that have achieved immortality without exciting reverence; and which occupy a small, precise world with rules that can be learnt like those of a board game. And the motive force behind the comedy is often sadness that this world has vanished, and the impulse to bring it back.

There will always be a market for the pastiche writer who labour away on the further adventures of

heroes left stranded by their creators' deaths, from Flashman and Mr Rochester to James Bond and Hergé's Tintin.

Theatricality, the same goes for productions that relaunch yesterday's idols on a posthumous career, like John Barton's Max Miller, Mr Vosburgh's Marx Brothers or Tom McGrath's Laurel and Hardy. Pastiche of old comedians is a particularly delicate art, as it requires two simultaneous kinds of comedy. Here's a *Funny Thing* asked you to laugh at the conventions of the act itself. *A Night in the Ukraine* was an amazing compilation of brand-new Marx Brothers material, but it was also a joke about how they made jokes. As for *Laurel and Hardy*, alongside the tie-twiddling and struggles with step-ladders and crushed bowler hats, the play investigated the biographical and historical background that gave birth to these routines. Gavin Selicr says in his new, full-length study of McGrath (*Riverside Interviews* 6, Binnacle Press, £5.75): "The evocation of the screen personalities serves as a foil to the portrayal of the real-life relationship between the two men. The knockabout episodes

offset references to the Depression, 1940, drink problems, and the effort of dealing with big business and romance. The magic of the play stems from its constant oscillation between these two poles, as Laurel and Hardy look back from the Elysian Fields."

As a good play on a perennial subject, *Laurel and Hardy* stands outside the magnetic field of fashion; and you have to seek some other cause for the return of such forgotten favourites as the Grange School Festival or *Mr Cinders*.

One obvious cause is the relaxation in theatrical bigotry. For over twenty years, the idea has been zealously put about that the stock-in-trade of the modern British stage was a load of dark-age junk until the Second Coming of 1956. Go along to *When the Wind Blows* at the Whitehall, and you will see the benighted Bloggess embracing their nuclear doom to the crackly accompaniment of "Spread a Little Happiness" from a bakelite wireless set. Visit the Fortune Theatre and you discover that it is in fact a touching and beautiful song, and that the rest of the show is really rather good.



The Daisy (Alexandra Mathis) who pulls it off: no lack of respectable ancestors?

Dance

Joyous

Laura Dean
Sadler's Wells

Laura Dean reminds me of the would-be philosopher who could not stop happiness from breaking in. Advance reports of her dances laid emphasis on the theories and austerity behind them. At least as important is the fact that she comes from the land of jiggers and runners, of cheer-leaders and majorettes, of jazz drummers and high-energy living. It shows in her work.

Take *Inner Circle*, the first piece on Tuesday night's programme. Six dancers enter, one by one, picking up the simple, repetitive patterns set by the first arrival. But before long, movements are diversifying, and energy is increasing; their movements build a complicity of growing excitement, as if a battery were charging before your eyes. When all that accumulated force suddenly starts evolving into a march, the six dancers, lined up across the back of the stage and moving on the spot, are as triumphantly joyous as a carnival procession.

That piece ends exhilaratingly, with one of Dean's trademarks: spinning. But what a lot of ways there are to spin. Each dancer revolves on his or her own axis, clockwise, but two of them are also tracing a circle, anti-clockwise, while the rest form a larger outer circle, also turning widdershins; and, while one set move fast, the others go slow, changing pace every so often. What price your 32 fonettes now?

The other recurring feature is an undulating use of the arms, falling into shapes that recall Tai Chi or certain oriental dances. Dean, it seems, started choreography with absolutely minimal movements, walking and turning, in order to avoid other dance influences, but has gradually added elements.

John Percival

PERSONAL BANK CHARGES.

On May 31st we'll be making a change to the way we calculate our bank charges.

The change relates to the allowance which we make on the credit balances in the account, and which we then deduct from any charges incurred.

For the past twelve months, longer than any other bank, we have maintained this allowance at 5% per annum. In line with falling interest rates in general, we are now reducing the rate to 3% per annum, and this may vary from time to time.

However, the cost of a cheque or other withdrawal will remain at 28p, and direct debits will remain at 15p.

And it will still be possible to avoid bank charges altogether by keeping a minimum of £100 in your cheque account throughout a quarterly charges period.

Opera

Pintilie's brilliant box of fireworks

Carmen
New Theatre, Cardiff

Who has the last word on Bizet's *Carmen*? There was Fagioni at the Edinburgh Festival staging a near-perfect version. Then came Brook in Paris with *La Tragédie de Carmen* at the Bouffes du Nord. Way back in the memories of Proust's *Carmen* Jones, probably the main influence on Lucian Pintilie's *Carmen* for the Welsh National Opera, just opened in Cardiff. Pintilie, like the Premier of yesterday, is irreverent to the point of iconoclasm, seizing on what he likes, deciding what he dislikes, ready to rewrite and do a little rescoring, and yet in the end he is captivated by the myth that would never see again. Whether it is the right *Carmen* for first-time listeners is a question even more open than whether Chénier's idiosyncratic *Ring* was right for first time BBC television audiences. But Pintilie is quite entitled to dazzle, provoke, even infuriate those who reckon they know the work backwards.

His opening proposition, that *Carmen* is the first opera put on after a revolution, is an irrelevance. But it allows him, with the aid of his regular designers, Radu and Miruna Borzescu, to fill his stage, or rather arena, with sandbags, dugouts, revolutionaries and all the detritus of war. The

A Kazakh proverb says that a Kazakh prizes only four things, his horse, his gun, his birthplace and his wife - and in that order. They live in the far north-west of China between Mongolia and Tibet and, during the Cultural Revolution, it was the aim of the government to insert the Communist Party into their list of prized possessions.

This was not easy for the Kazakhs, who did not take kindly to the suppression of their customs, and some fled. Nor was it that easy for the Chinese, who found these nomads, one of the minority tribes who occupy half the land mass of China, rather obdurate and, one would guess, as the Kazakhs speak Turkish, rather uncomprehending. In 1977, however, it was all change again, with another revolution,



Blinded by love: Micaëla (Helen Field) with José (Jacques Trussell)

trappings of peace are a carnival atmosphere, a ringmaster, a revolve and the underbasket of a ballroom from which laggards and - progs - are dispersed. Pintilie's trick is to draw his double audience, that on stage and that in the auditorium, into his story.

In Act I, it is done by mockery. Everything and everyone is sent up: *Carmen*'s two arias are both interrupted at the start with the cheer of recognition that greets the opening bars of a Minelli number at the Apollo Victoria. Micaëla, introduced as blind (with love for José, presumably), is accompanied by child angels and a model of her holy home drawn by a truck on rails running along the footlights. In Act II Escamillo is given a movie star's build-up and then enters from the wrong direction. So far Pintilie stages with the exuberance and bad taste of a Barrow or a Jérôme Savary,

whose Paris *Belle Hélène* was described here yesterday. (By coincidence *Hélène* and *Carmen* share the same librettists, but there the resemblance ends.)

Then, in the middle of Act II, on José's return from prison, he lets the music and the story have a chance. The stage clears, the jokes ease off and the real theatre begins. José, as in Mérimée, is a romantic figure, but a sweating, bald-pated squaddie easily provoked and equally easily defeated. Jacques Trussell plays him with muscular and vocal belligerence; the top C is suspect, but he has power and physical presence. Jennifer Jones, also American, is a negro mezzo with the stature of a Verreth (and a couple of inches more height) plus the flash of a Dorothy Dandridge. The voice production still sounds a little immature for opera, but she was triumphantly able to carry out Pintilie's stage demands. Together she and Trussell pulled

the audience to the real core of the opera, which is about neither revolution nor liberty, but the blindness of love, a fact symbolized by the red bandage placed over José's eyes at curtainfall.

Escamillo is as you expect to find him: Henry Newman has plenty of swagger but not enough bottom to the voice. The rest of the cast are quite other. Helen Field's Micaëla, vocally very assured, fitted in and out of the action, loved-blinded by José and then almost like Little Clara from *The Nutcracker* (she makes her entrance on point) peering in amazed on a world of magicians and monsters. David Gwynne's Zuniga begins as a cigar-smoking bully until he is snuffed and hooded by the smugglers and swept off in an IRA-style execution in Act II.

Never have the WNO's rightly-famed chorus, who are the very nub of this staging, worked so hard picking their way through jugglers, malingers, stilt-walkers and sand-bags. And, probably never has an "impromptu" performance of *Carmen* been so thoroughly rehearsed, on stage at least. Musically the preparation sounded less thorough, and the orchestra under Kees Bakels, swamped by a welter of visual legereidm, had not much chance to show themselves off.

The WNO have themselves the ultimate in producer's opera, a Pintilie supershow which is probably the most exotic and complex staging in the company's history to date, an evening that is simultaneously exhausting and exhilarating. Pintilie and his stage team, following their usual custom, did not take a curtain call. Perhaps they reckoned they had already had the last word.

John Higgins

Television

Comrades of custom

this time producing a benign government attitude. Minorities were in aid, in the case of the wool-producing Kazakhs, rather privileged. It was with them that Granada closed its splendid series *Inside China* last night.

They focused on the family of Abder Qadir, respected elder ("white beard") and a man who has probably seen it all before and half expects to see it again. The Kazakhs are Muslim, though this tribe was down to its last mullah - and he was 76 - and not very religious, but they like being Kazakhs. We saw them last night migrating from

winter to summer pastures, getting tipsy on fermented mare's milk and generally looking well fed and pretty happy about it all. They have been collectivised but the family unit remains strong. Government is no longer by elder but by committee. Abder sits on one and suffers being called comrade by younger men whose ears he might have cuffed for taking the liberty not all that long ago.

The director-producer, Andre Singer, was allowed to choose his own family by the Chinese as long as the local collective

agreed. He chose well and filmed well, sometimes from horseback, which is the way, of course, the nomads get around. Whatever discomfort this might have caused him, the cameraman Mike Blakeley, it did not show through.

This was an excellent film. There is no doubt the Kazakhs have come up in the world, their women too. The closing scenes where the tribe celebrating a wedding - nowadays women choose their own partners instead of being traded for pots and pans or horses - showed the women pursuing the men with whips to show who was the most potent of actors, but his slow ironic smiles and lazy assertions of clubland rank are just what Gerry needs.

Dennis Hackett

Theatre

Dead Ringer
Duke of York's

Opening with a spot of pre-election satire, getting down to business with a corpse on the Downing Street carpet, and addressed to a public who would be happy to see the cast of *Yes Minister* taking over the reins of government, James Francis's thriller is laying several bets on surviving longer than June 9.

Based on a book by Logan Goutley, *Dead Ringer* develops from the unlikely premise that, when the Prime Minister drops dead on the eve of the polls, his Cabinet colleagues are able to wheel in an actor double to take his place and win them a thumping majority. Late in the evening, Mr Francis comes up with an explanation of this lucky coincidence, but who cares? All that matters is to get the mischievous Gerry Jackson into the expired leader's hand-made shoes and sit back to watch the fun.

It begins, as you would expect, with Gerry scanning the Official Secrets Act as an artist's contract, and familiarizing himself with the props on his desk. But, no sooner have you got him marked down as a small-timer who would be more at home in *Crossroads*, he expands to the limits of his new role. He has the head of security springing to attention, sails through his first post-election speech and effects a fully consummated reconciliation with the PM's widow.

Before long he is planning a Cabinet reshuffle, downgrading his erstwhile employers to Northern Ireland and the back benches. The appeal of all this, as in an Ealing Studios comedy, is not that it is likely to happen but that you want it to happen. And Mr Francis duly gratifies the fantasy.

Mr Francis, alas, has also fulfilled his promise and supplied a thriller involving all the usual apparatus of fingerprints and a black-gloved hand sliding round to the light switch, plus counter-espionage, an on-stage killing and a noisy IRA climax. Even if this were better constructed, it would not alter the fact that the rise of Gerry is more interesting than the question of who killed Randolph.

However, as West End entertainment goes these days, Roger Cissold's production is a fair night out, and it has a cast to stir the memory. Sylvia Syms returns in excellent shape as the Downing Street widow, and McDonald Hobley belches fire as the unspeakable Foreign Secretary. William Franklyn is not the most potent of actors, but his slow ironic smiles and lazy assertions of clubland rank are just what Gerry needs.

Irving Wardle

Concerts

A dubious mixture

Anup Kumar Biswas
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Tuesday night's concert, in aid of the Ethiopian Famine Relief Fund, suggested Western and Indian classical music do not mix well in the same programme, and there was also a question as to whether the latter can be advantageously played on the cello.

Anup Kumar Biswas started with Beethoven's "Bei Männern" variations, and the performance was notable chiefly for the sensitive keyboard playing of John Lenehan. What Mr Biswas did was musical enough, but he was, from where I was sitting, too subordinate to the piano, his tone small, even scratchy at times.

Perhaps the diversity of Beethoven's variations unsettled him, but Fauré's evening-flowing *Elégie* was much better. His tone was fuller, the phrasing was entirely coherent, the long singing lines were beautifully shaped. Walton's *Passacaglia*, his last composition, first heard from Rostropovich in 1982, also had a mastery performance. This is not music which probes deeply, yet it is finely crafted and displays some of the cello's resources attractively.

Though written in 1976, Nareh Sohal's *Undulation* only

now received its UK premiere, and was found to make an interesting use of quarter-tones. The trouble is that even in these supposedly enlightened days micro-intervals tend, to Western ears, to sound merely out of tune, even when used as systematically as here.

Undulation is a long meditation, and seemed rather shapeless at first hearing, though, in the manner of Indian raga improvisations, it latterly became more animated. This was achieved principally through the agency of a series of increasingly virtuosic piano cadenzas, again excellently played by Mr Lenehan: the keyboard writing was, indeed, of considerably greater interest than that for cello.

There ought then to have been an interval, but we had a prolonged session of Indian classical music, which, despite inventive sitar-playing by Deepak Choudhury, made for an unconsciously lengthy first half.

After the interval Mr Biswas reappeared, in effect replacing the sitar in the Indian group. Usaid Imrat Khan's *Raga Jukoun* is written for the cello but in the Indian musical system, with accompaniment by tabla and tanpura. Despite superb playing by Mr Biswas, it seemed a mismatch to me.

Max Harrison

Krause/Gage
Wigmore Hall

Why are Sibelius's songs so rarely performed in this country? I suppose the complexities of the Swedish and Finnish languages have something to do with it, but, more important, the musical idiom itself is extraordinarily elusive, the level of creative inspiration unpredictable. But, as Tom Krause eloquently disclosed in his recital on Tuesday night, even those songs which are unsatisfying as a whole conceal many felicitous touches that a dramatic voice can root out and convey with powerful, often moving, effect.

In all the songs on Mr Krause's programme Sibelius's emotional response to the words was seldom less than acute, but two songs showed him at his best. The first was a setting of Swedish, Karl Tavaststjerna's "Och finns det en tank", concise, sharply pointed and with a spare piano accompaniment which, rather more than usual in these songs, had enhancing comments to make on the vocal line. The other (and to my mind the

finest in the group) Mr Krause reserved for his first encore here, in a setting of Koskimies's Finnish poem "Ilalle". Sibelius approached the expressive heights of the great vocal poem *Luonnontar* in a free-flowing, rapturous solo line supported by the simplest of piano parts, played with a shimmering glow by Irwin Gage.

Mr Krause's resonant middle register and sure feel for the operatic stage lent "Romeo" a particularly capricious swagger and "Nar jag drommer" an emphatic declamatory thrust, just as his dark baritone colouring imbued both "I natten" and "På verandan vid havet" with an authentic Scandinavian bleakness. However, the heartily warm that he had brought to the French songs in the recital (Duparc and Ravel), coupled with the intensity of his second encore (Strauss's "Ruhe, meine Seele"), serve to emphasise the range of expression in Sibelius's "Kysens hopp" and "Drommen", leaving one eager for the day - apparently later this year - when all Sibelius's songs will be available on record.

Geoffrey Norris

Cannes Film Festival

Eccentrically dark defeatism

Andrei Tarkovsky's *Nostalgia* was one of the major showpieces reserved for the final days of the Cannes Festival. Those who found *The Mirror* and *Stalker* obscure will not be reassured to learn that beside his new film - the first he has made outside the Soviet Union - they appear positively luminous and transparent.

Tarkovsky himself gloomily dismisses any likelihood of being understood: "A work of art - or literature, music, theatre or cinema - can be understood only by those who belong to the cultural area in which this work was born. He who, even belonging to another culture, claims to have understood it, is deluding himself." He goes further, to claim that it is not just useless, but damaging, for a foreigner to read Dostoevsky or Chekhov and suppose he can understand: "It is better to know nothing than to have a distorted picture."

It seems an eccentric, if not a defeatist, position for an artist

presenting a film at an international competition. Tarkovsky says the first difficulty for the foreigner is in comprehending the Russian meaning of "nostalgia". It is "the echo of my suffering, because I am far from my own country... It is an illness because it removes strength from the spirit... It can even be mortal. It is a moral suffering of the spirit. Those who cannot overcome it, die. One only conquers it, disease abroad. If I go to another part of Russia, I can feel sadness but not "nostalgia".

From this it may be judged that *Nostalgia* is not bubbling over with gaiety. The main character is a Russian music critic following the steps of a nineteenth-century composer and countryman in Italy. His companions, intermittently, are a beautiful interpreter and an eccentric old philosopher who ends by incarnating himself before a small and indifferent audience.

The Russian's travels among the Italian monuments invariably bring him back to the thermal baths of Bagno Vignoni, in Tuscany. Yet Tarkovsky carries his own world with him. His characters stray and meet and pause and exchange enigmatic looks and cryptic dialogues in landscapes that are indistinguishable from those of *Stalker*. The cross-light filtered through dust and doorways is reflected in puddles polluted by mud and garbage which is composed into exquisite still-lives. The eerie silence is punctuated by the noise of rain, the chink of a flossam bottle and the padding of an ubiquitous dog. We are carried back to *Solaris*, rather, when a Russian village materializes in the midst of an Italian gothic church. The individual images are marvels of composition, but it does all grow to look like habit or self-indulgence, not to speak of more than a touch of the pretentious.

David Robinson

SUMMER GARDENS NUMBER

A Warwickshire Garden in Colour Arthur Hellyer visits Ilmington Manor, near Shipston-on-Stour.

Chelsea Flower Show A preview by Robert Pearson. Rediscovering Topiary Tony Venison examines the reasons for a revived interest in topiary and box hedging. Summer Outings for Containers Christopher Lloyd's suggestions for planting schemes in tubs and pots.

Conserving Old Garden Pinks Will Inghwersen looks at old Dianthus varieties. plus The result of the Country Life Record Birdwatch in East Anglia last Saturday.

COUNTRY LIFE ON SALE NOW

MARKET REPORT by Michael Clark

ICI soars on US buying

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings began, May 9. Dealings end, May 20. Contango Day, May 23. Settlement Day, May 31.

The Americans are still big fans of ICI. Yesterday they made their point by starting a stampede for the shares and pushing the price up 22p to equal the year's high of 476p.

This latest move coincided with a seminar at the Savoy Hotel arranged by brokers De Zoete & Bevan to discuss the group's loss-making petrochemicals and plastics division.

Those present seemed to have decided that the worst may now be over. Recent first quarter figures from ICI showed losses at this division reduced from between £30m and £40m to only £10m. Last year the total loss was £139m.

The recent strength of the Deutsche Mark combined with higher prices and a slight pick-up in demand should see those losses greatly reduced. It is doubtful that the deficit will exceed £30m for the year as a whole. As a result De Zoete are looking for profits for the entire group of £500m this year and possibly a record £700m next year.

But other ICI watchers believe the share price may be running ahead of events, with the Americans using ICI shares as a hedge against renewed

weakness in the dollar. Brokers Greenwell say they are slightly more optimistic after the better-than-expected first quarter figures, but would not chase the price above 450p.

Bankers, Noble Grassart, has offered 5m shares at 40p each in 163/2 plantations company, Anglo America Agriculture, formerly Scottish Ceylon Tea. It hopes to raise £40m to expand the company's vineyard and joboa acreages in the US and take nearer the ambitious target of a £30m to £50m capitalisation and full listing within two years. The company's shares are currently held by a number of leading institutions and trade at 40p.

In the event, the surge in the price of ICI and P & O was mainly responsible for the 14.2 jump in the FT index to 689.8, its biggest one-day gain for more than two months.

US investors were also responsible for another record session on the traded options market where 9,727 contracts were recorded - easily exceeding Monday's record of 9,115 contracts. Investors are banking on a landslide victory for the Conservatives at next month's General Election which they hope will result in another boost to share prices.

Gilts enjoyed renewed support, sporting gains of up to 1/2p at one stage on the back of the firmer pound which ended the day 0.4 cents higher at 15.640 on the foreign exchange. However, profit-taking after hours cut the lead to only 1/2p by the close.

Among the other blue chips, selective support boosted Bencam 16p to 396p. Courtaulds 4p to 102p, BOC Group 3p to 204p, Glaxo 25p to 885p and Imperial Group 3p to 114p. In electricals, Plessey was again wanted, closing 15p up at a new high of 649p, for a two-day lead

of 23p, ahead of figures next week.

On the bid front, Extel, the financial news information service, stepped up its battle to win control of Bena Brothers.

BP is becoming increasingly "excited" by the UK's on-land potential and is currently drilling a series of eight shallow wells up in the East Midlands which look promising. All good news for Lloyd Oil, which has a 25 per cent stake in the project, and has risen from the 80p level recently to close at 105p last night. It is estimated a small 3 million barrel find could be worth an extra 40p a share to the group.

Brokers Hoare Govett bought a 204p, Glaxo 25p to 885p and Imperial Group 3p to 114p. In electricals, Plessey was again wanted, closing 15p up at a new high of 649p, for a two-day lead

to raise its offer. Bena ended the day 28p up at 231p, while Extel slipped 2p to 308p. United Newspapers rose 3p to 241p after its decision not to chase the bid higher.

Mr Brian Reynolds, the 36-year-old chairman and founder of Micro Focus must be well pleased with his group's reception to first dealings on the Unlisted Securities Market. The 2.6 million shares of his group, which supplies software development aids to the microcomputer industry, were off-sold by way of tender at a minimum price of 155p.

Yesterday the price opened at 260p after being more than four times oversubscribed before closing at 265p.

Awaiting figures today, shares of Mr Asif Nadir's Polly Peck, the fruit and packaging group, rose 1p to 217p. The market is looking for pre-tax profits of about £9m compared with £3m last year.

Shares of Wheseev slipped 2p to 130p after yesterday's report in *The Times* that Costain Group had sold its near 15 per cent stake at 134p and had given up all hopes of making a full bid.

THE TIMES 1000 1982/83

The World's Top Companies

The 1000 largest UK companies ranked by turnover

The 1000 largest UK companies ranked by turnover

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Investment and Finance

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THE TIMES

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 689.8 up 14.2
FT 100 Index 80.61 up 0.02
Sargines 19.248
Tring Mail USM Index 166.5 up 0.3
Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones, 8598.84 up 26.61
Hongkong Hang Seng Index, 933.46 up 2.76
New York Dow Jones Average (latest) 1215.85 up 10.06

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.5590 up 20pts
Index 83.8 up 0.1
DM 3.84 up 0.75
FF 11.54 up 0.3
Yen 362.50 down 0.50
Dollar
Index 122.1 down 0.3
DM 2.4610 unchanged
Gold \$443.50 up \$0.50
NEW YORK LATEST
Gold \$442.75
Sterling \$1.5590

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Base rates 10
3 month interbank 10% - 10 1/4
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 8 1/8 - 4 1/8
3 month DM 5 1/8 - 4 1/8
3 month FR 1 1/8 - 1 3/8
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling
Export Finance Scheme IV
Average reference rate for
interest period March 2 to April 5, 1983 inclusive: 10.974 per cent.

PRICE CHANGES

Atlantic Met 112p up 24p
Cen & Sheer 12.5p up 2p
P & O 191p up 25p
Leigh Int 86p up 10p
Benn Bros 228p up 25p
More O'Farrell 86p up 8p
T Northwick 22p down 5p
Benlex 28p down 3p
Tozer 19p down 2p
Redfern 109p down 10p
Modern Eng 28p down 2p
Raybeck 28p down 2p

TODAY

Interims: Construction Hldgs, Higgs, Brewery, Philips Lamps NV (first qtr), Polly Duct, Redman Heenan, Royal Dutch, Petroleum, (first qtr), Shell Transport and (first qtr), Stenhouse Hldgs, Whitbread.

Finals: C E Heath, Land Securities, London Atlantic, London Tst, Monks, Ropam, Selincourt, NAT Natural Resources.

Economic statistics: UK Banks' assets and liabilities and the money stock (Mid-Apr). London dollar and sterling certificates of deposit (Mid-Apr). Manufacturers' and distributors' stocks (first qtr). Preliminary estimate of gross domestic product based on output data (first qtr).

Christie's sales rise by 17 pc

While the bid for Sotheby's remains in abeyance following the reference to the Monopolies Commission, business at Christie's, its main art dealing rival, continues to flourish.

Mr J. A. Floyd, Christie's chairman, said yesterday that worldwide sales to the end of April were up by 17 per cent, and interim results in October are expected to show a significant increase over the first half of the year.

● LISTING PLAN: Prudential Assurance, is seeking a stock market listing in Johannesburg for its South African subsidiary following the underwritten offer for sale of 10 million shares, leaving the London-based parent company with a 64.7 per cent stake. The company ranks as the fifth largest life office in South Africa.

● DUPONT LOSS: Dupont, the metal forming, plastics and furniture group, posted a loss of £1.1m in 1982, against £225,000 the previous year, after incurring heavy restructuring costs. The group says the outlook is better this year, but there is no sign of the recovery reported by a number of authorities.

Investors' Notebook page 18

● REPAYMENTS: France will repay the \$4,000m, 10 year loan it raised last year in five equal instalments starting in October 1988. M Jacques Delors, the French finance minister, said yesterday that the rise of the dollar against the franc had increased principal and interest payments.

● AGREEMENT: A comprehensive cooperation agreement has been signed between Cadbury Schweppes and Hungarofruit, the Hungarian state organization, for the import and export of a wide variety of foodstuffs.

WALL STREET

Dow up in active trading

New York (AP-Dow Jones) - Wall Street stocks rose steadily in active trading, and the Dow Jones Industrial average was up more than 14 points at 1,220.

Advancing issues have topped 1,110 and were 3 to 1 over decliners.

Mr William Lefevre, vice-president for investment strategy at Purcell Graham Company, said that fears that interest rates had bottomed were seen as premature and investors tried to get back in.

Mr Lefevre said that the Dow Jones Industrial average was up 1 1/2 to 3 1/2, with 59 1/2 to 59 3/4, Superior Oil up 1 1/2 at 35 1/2, Monsanto up 1/2 at 83 1/2, Federal National Mortgage down 1/2 at 27 1/2, NCR Corporation up 2 at 121 1/2, Walt Disney up 1/2 at 75 1/2, and Newmont Mining up 1 1/2 at 58 1/2.

International Business Machines was up 1/2 at 114 1/2, General Motors down 1/2 at 108 1/2, Digital Equipment up 3/4 at 117 1/2, American Express up 2 at 69 1/2, Teledyne up 1 1/2 at 144 1/2.

Tax veto threat by Reagan

From Bailey Morris Washington

President Reagan has sharpened his budget confrontation with Congress by threatening to veto any tax increases over the next two years even if Senate Republicans ignore his wishes and endorse them this week.

He also threatened to veto any spending bills for domestic programmes, reiterating his theme that soaring budget deficits should be reduced by making deeper cuts in programmes for the poor and elderly.

"It is time to draw the line and stand up for the American people. I will not support a budget resolution that raises taxes while we are coming out of recession. I will veto any tax bill that would do this."

The President's threat stunned influential legislators who have been trying desperately to forge a compromise on the budget before the Williamsburg economic summit at which high US interest rates and budget deficits and budget deficits are certain to come up.

An angry Republican said: "This effectively removes the President from a leadership role in forging fiscal policy. The White House strategy is now clear. It intends to blame Congress for the big budget deficits without offering any initiatives of its own."

As the Senate Budget Committee met this week to try once again to vote on a compromise measure to send to the Senate floor, Mr Reagan's position remained uncompromising on the key issues of modest tax increases and proposed cuts in his arms build-up. Under the President's programme, the US budget deficit would increase to an estimated \$100bn (£64bn) next year.

Senate Republicans, 19 of whom are up for re-election next year, have said that both the size of the projected deficit and the proposal for still more cuts in programmes for the poor and elderly are unacceptable.

The lack of congressional support for Mr Reagan's programme and the President's intransigence on the key issues raises the possibility that the budget process could unravel altogether if stalemate continues.

Mr Peter Domenici, chairman of the Senate Budget Committee, said that despite two prior failures he felt that a budget resolution could be found that could be passed by the full Senate.

The Senate would then go into conference with the Democratic-controlled House of Representatives next week to try and resolve their difference and agree on a compromise.

deputy director general. In Tokyo the team plans talks with the Keidanren (Japanese equivalent to the CBI) the Nikkeiren (the employers' industrial relations body), the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

A radical change in the European-Japanese trading relationship is imperative if Japan is to preserve her markets in Europe, Sir Campbell said yesterday.

"If the Japanese wish to avoid serious restrictions in the European market, whether national like (Potters) or Community-wide, they must apply themselves to the task of opening up their own market with the same dedication as they penetrate ours," he said.

Until recently the French Government restricted (mainly Japanese) video cassette imports by insisting they pass through small customs office in

Sir Campbell leaves for Japan on July 9 with Mr Derek Kingsbury, chairman of the CBI's overseas committee, and Mr Kenneth Edwards, CBI

Shipping group's shares soar 27p to 10-year high

Trafalgar House buys 5pc stake in P&O as prelude to bid

By Michael Clark

Trafalgar House, the property and shipping group headed by Mr Nigel Brookes has bought 5 per cent of P & O, one of the most famous names in shipping.

P & O shares soared 27p to a 10-year high 191p on the news, valuing the group at more than £280m.

A full bid for P & O now seems likely, particularly as Mr Brookes has refused to deny that his company is preparing the ground for a takeover.

When asked by *The Times* on Monday about the build-up, he said: "We are hearing lots of stories all the time about lots of companies, and we cannot comment." Yesterday a spokesman for the group said they had nothing to add to this statement.

P & O were told yesterday morning by Trafalgar House that it had bought the shares. Trafalgar House spent £7.1m in the market at prices of up to 155p a share in the days up to May 7. But it did not say why it had bought the shares, how long it intended to hold them, nor



Inchcape (left) and Brookes: new hand on the helm?

whether it was planning to add to its holding, according to Mr Andrew Robb, P & O's finance director. "We were given no indication of what their plans were," he said.

Mr Robb said that should Trafalgar House try to buy the company, any bid would have

to be "substantially over the current market price". The assets of P & O, as recorded in its last balance sheet, were worth 325p a share, he said.

Shipping analysts yesterday predicted that Trafalgar would open the bidding at about 200p a share, improving the terms

later to 225p and then winning the day with an offer of 250p. But some thought that an offer of 300p might be required to win the backing of the P & O board.

Mr Oliver Brooks, managing director of P & O said last night that a bid from Trafalgar House

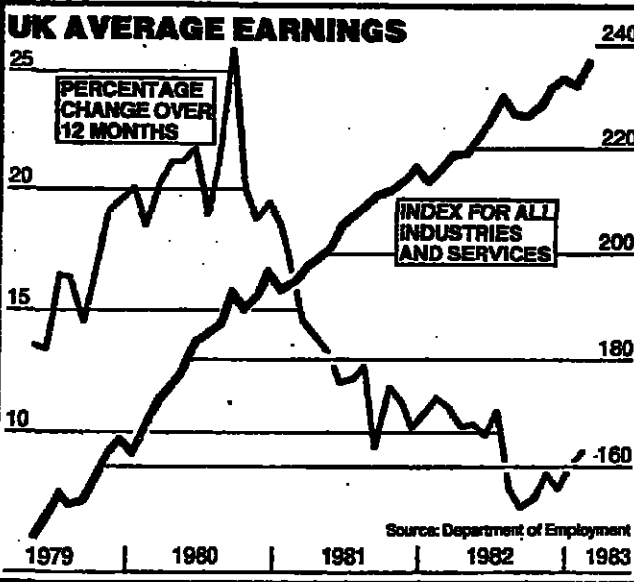
would not automatically be resisted. "We are interested in these developments. If they wish to come to us (to talk) of course they can. But we have no intention of approaching them."

"His information from the stock market was that a bid might be in the region of 210p a share, he said."

P & O has been under the chairmanship of Lord Inchcape, since the early 1970s when it was involved in an epic bid battle with Bovis, the construction group which it later traded over. In recent years it has suffered badly from the recession in shipping and the fleet, which totalled 450 ships in the 1960s, has now dwindled to 69 ships. The main contribution to profits now comes from oil and financial activities and Bovis.

Profits have also suffered and fell last year from £40.9m to £33.5m.

Trafalgar House, in contrast, has been on a strong upward trend, and Mr Brookes said this year that he was planning to return to the takeover trail he followed in 1960s and early 1970s.



Pay deals push up living standards

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Living standards of people in work have risen by more than 2 1/2 per cent over the past year as pay deals have become comfortably outstripped inflation, the latest official figures reveal.

Average earnings rose by an underlying 7.5 per cent in the year to March, while prices rose by only 4.6 per cent or less.

The growing affluence of those with jobs may prove a key issue in the election campaign as ministers seek to defend their tough anti-inflation policies.

The rise in earnings has decelerated steadily since peaking at 22 per cent in mid-1980, and is now the lowest for 5 1/2 years. But progress on inflation has been even more rapid.

Over the course of the year, however, the gap between earnings and prices is likely to narrow again as inflation picks up and pay rises continue to fall.

With most workers still to settle in the current wage round, the official figures largely reflect higher deals reached last year.

The rise in earnings also reflects more overtime and less short-term working as industrial output has picked up since the

winter. Earnings in manufacturing increased by an underlying 8 per cent in the 12 months to March, compared with basic settlements so far this year averaging 5.6 per cent (as notified to the Confederation of British Industry).

In the first quarter of this year, manufacturing wage costs per unit of output rose by only 2.7 per cent, the smallest rise for 15 years.

Ministers have said that for inflation to fall further pay rises must come down more swiftly. Most forecasters, however, expect a slightly higher wage round next time.

The official index of average earnings, which includes basic pay and other distortions, rose by 8.2 per cent in the latest 12 months to 237.8 (Jan 1976 = 100).

● COMPUTER SURGE: a survey by the Economist Intelligence Unit shows that more than 700,000 home computers have been sold into the United Kingdom market since 1978, with a growth in value of more than 400 per cent in 1982 alone.

Tilling builds defence

By Our Financial Staff

Thomas Tilling confirmed yesterday that a financial restructuring of "certain UK and US interests" which will provide for direct benefits to and participation by Tilling shareholders will be the main plank in its defence against BTR's increased £664m bid.

Last night Sir Patrick Meany, managing director of Tilling said that one of the financial options open to the company would be to float off a proportion of shares in some of its subsidiaries, and to give shareholders a direct stake in

such "deconglomerated" companies.

Under the takeover rules, he added, none of the options could be exercised while the BTR bid was still outstanding.

He described yesterday's statement, which promised an encouraging outlook for next year and proposals for a further increase in dividend income in that year as "a trailer to our full defence document".

BTR yesterday added a further 1 per cent of Tilling shares to its 22 per cent holding with market purchases.

They had had little effect on the trade balance.

Sir Campbell added: "The European Community does not seek a bilateral balance of trade with Japan but at a time of very high unemployment the huge imbalance of trade, and therefore of jobs, is totally unacceptable."

Sir Campbell was yesterday re-elected president of the CBI for another year.

Sir James Clesminson, chairman of Reckitt and Colman, was elected deputy president.

● The Japanese parliament passed a bill yesterday eliminating discrimination against foreign manufacturers in marketing their finished goods in the Japanese market.

The Bill, an attempt to ease conflict between Japan and its trading partners, cuts down Japan's lengthy and complicated testing procedures, which the US and Western Europe claims operate as a discriminatory non-tariff barrier.

More debts warning by bankers

By Michael Prest

More countries may have to reschedule their international debts, and existing financing arrangements might have to be revised, Sir Jeremy Morse, chairman of Lloyds Bank, said yesterday.

As if to give urgency to his words, Nigeria has formally requested help from the International Monetary Fund despite being about to agree with its bank creditors a refinancing of short-term debts.

Bankers meeting in Brussels agreed that to cut interbank lines could permanently damage the financial system. Sir Jeremy said after a session of a conference organized by the American Bankers' Association.

"The stress was on good crisis management and on fostering economic growth among the less developed countries," he said.

Some bankers, prompted by Tuesday's reports that the Bank for International Settlements will grant no more bridging loans, said in the conference that the central banks may have to contribute more to what is now seen as a second round of rescheduling.

Mr Jeffrey Garten, of Lehman Brothers, the American investment bank, argued that the strategy of the last six months, which relied on an expansion of world trade, austerity in the debtor countries, and economic recovery in the leading industrial nations was incomplete and inadequate.

Nigeria, a member of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, is thought to be ready to sign a refinancing agreement when it meets bankers in New York tomorrow.

According to the outline deal, it is understood that Nigeria will be lent \$1,500m over three years at 1 1/2 per cent over the London Interbank Offered Rate.

This agreement covers only arrears of payments on confirmed letters of credit. Nigeria's total short-term debt has been estimated at \$6,000m. Many banks have suspended granting letters of credit to Nigeria.

How much the West African country wishes to borrow from the IMF has yet to be revealed. Its contributions to the Fund would permit borrowings of up to \$2,600m, and another \$580m could be available from the special IMF scheme for exports earnings compensation.

Uncertainty also still surrounds Brazil's efforts to increase its borrowings through interbank lines of credit. Some of the 8 members of the bank liaison group, chaired by Chase Manhattan, are banking at meeting Brazil's full demand for \$9,000m in short term bank credits.

Extel raises Benn bid to £16m

By Jonathan Clare

United Newspapers was close yesterday to abandoning its bid for Benn Brothers, the specialist publishers, after Extel raised its bid, the fourth offer to be made in the battle, with the blessing of the Benn board.

Extel's new offer values Benn, including the preference shares, at about £16m, and is equivalent to almost 226p per share. This compares with United's bid currently worth 205p. It values Benn at about £15m.

Extel has also offered a full cash alternative worth nearly 208p per share, in response to last Friday's cash alternative from United of 197.2p.

United still believes it can make Benn more profitable but is understood to be concerned that further raising its offer will dilute its shareholders' earnings too much.

Mr David Stevens, United's chairman, yesterday said Extel was being governed by emotion rather than commercial considerations.

There are close family ties

between Extel and Benn, and a former Extel chairman is the father of Benn's managing director, Mr James Benn. "What puzzles me is that Extel knows nothing about running magazines. We both know Benn's profit record... yet Extel says it can improve that and leave the management in place. We have no commitment to bring Timothy Benn back into the business," said Mr Stevens.

Mr Timothy Benn is a former chairman who was ousted from the boardroom and subsequently agreed to sell his shareholding to United. Extel says the advantage of the merger is to bring together two information technology companies. It denied Mr Stevens' claim that Extel was making a rash plunge.

Extel, meanwhile bought 165,000 Benn shares in the market.

Extel already has undertaken to accept the offer from Benn directors and shareholders representing 19.4 per cent of the shares.

BR deal with Godfrey Davis ruled as anti-competitive

By Andrew Cornelius

The Office of Fair Trading has censured British Rail for granting exclusive self-drive car hire facilities at 73 main stations to Godfrey Davis Europcar.

Sir Gordon Borrie, director general of Fair Trading, said in a report yesterday that British Rail had pursued an "anti-competitive" course of conduct in making the agreement.

However, the rival car hire companies including Avis, Hertz and Swan National - which have criticized the Rail

Drive scheme will find no comfort from the report's conclusion.

Sir Gordon says that since the total business diverted to Godfrey Davis by the agreement is insignificant in the context of the £200m-a-year self-drive car hire market, no further action will be taken by the OFT to refer the agreement to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

British Rail also headed off criticism of the arrangement whereby rival firms are allowed

to advertise at any railway station by removing the advertising restriction at stations where Rail Drive facilities are not available. Sir Gordon sees no reason to dispute the view that a restriction of advertising is necessary at Rail Drive stations if the scheme is to operate successfully.

Last night, Mr Bill Dix, marketing director at Avis, one of the firms which is trying to change the arrangement, said that the company is consulting its lawyers over the OFT ruling.

Societies in CDs venture

By Lorna Bourke

Two building societies announced yesterday their plans of moving into the wholesale money markets, and others are expected to follow.

Both Nationwide and Anglia Building Society plan to make use of the provisions in the new Finance Act to raise funds by issuing certificates of deposit.

Until now societies have been unable to raise money in this way because of restrictions on paying interest gross.

Nationwide is expected to raise about £150m over the next 12 months and will probably issue the first tranche of £10m in the next few weeks.

The failure to raise money from the wholesale money markets will reduce appreciably the pressure on societies which are now suffering from high mortgage demand, and insufficient funds from depositors to meet home buyers needs.

Nationwide was also one of the first into the building society negotiable bond market and has raised £150m from this source.

The advantage of certificates of deposit over building society negotiable bonds is that there is no queuing system, and borrowers can enter the certificates market with greater flexibility.

Anglia Building Society intends to issue certificates of deposit for the most popular maturities, one month and three months.

The Registrar of Friendly Societies has told building societies that he wants them to raise more than 5 per cent of their money in the wholesale markets.

If all the top 10 societies enter the market in the next year about £3,000m of building society certificates of deposit could be issued.

After all is said and done

When the affairs of business are over and the last resolution has been spent, then is the time to reflect upon a time well spent at the Inn on the Park.

It goes without saying that the Inn on the Park is one of London's more elegant meeting places. As a business arena, however, this internationally celebrated hotel at the corner of Hyde Park boasts facilities second to none.

The superbly appointed suites lend themselves to any function, whatever the matter in hand, whatever the numbers involved.

Our famous Ballroom has been entirely redesigned - even more of an elegant showpiece now - and any gathering may be held there in a style that is nothing short of magnificent.

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It must be said that a business meeting at the Inn on the Park will never be a run of the mill affair. And if it must be said, say it at the Inn on the Park.

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Fungicide exports rise 99 pc

By Jonathan Davis

Britain's producers of agrochemicals had another record year last year, with total sales rising by 21 per cent to £542.3m.

The British Agrochemicals Association, in its annual report, revealed that export sales were up by 27 per cent to £271.3m while domestic sales rose by 15 per cent to £271.0m.

The association said that the outstanding achievement in the export market was helped by the devaluation of the pound.

British sales of fungicides were up by 18 per cent to £60.9m, and the herbicide market, the largest single sector, increased by 13 per cent to £159.7m. Insecticides sales rose by 7 per cent to £23.0m.

In percentage terms, the gains in the export market were more marked, with fungicides rising by 99 per cent to £17.9m, insecticides by 31 per cent to £85.3m, and herbicides by 17 per cent to £154.1m.

The world market as a whole, however, was more stagnant, with sales increasing by only 2.0 to 2.5 per cent in real terms. Pesticide control legislation remains the key issue facing the industry, and the association says that this now lies with the EEC.

Mr David Anslow, chairman of the British Agrochemicals Association, said that prices fell during 1982, in some cases quite dramatically, hitting the funds available for new research and development.

Insurers' loss cut by mild winter

By Jonathan Clare

The UK underwriting loss for the Sun Alliance and London Insurance company was much lower in the first quarter of this year because of the much milder winter.

This indication of the company's experience so far, was given at yesterday's annual meeting and reflects the results already reported by three big British insurers.

The overseas results were also better, especially in Canada, but much of the improvement was offset by heavier underwriting losses in Australia because of the bush fires there.

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK by Sandy McLachlan

Mettoy losses worsen as divisions slip

Mettoy Year to 31.12.82
Pretax loss £3.8m (£2.7m)
Stated loss per share 23.6p (16.5p)
Turnover £25m (£28.2m)
No dividend
Share price 40p, down 1p.

Including the costs of closing the general toys division and the Northampton headquarters, the total loss at Mettoy is just a little worse than expected when it raised £3.1m with February's rights issue.

The total loss which the shareholders are left nursing is £4.3m against the forecast £4.2m. On the other hand, the £3.1m and the £900,000 from the sale of more than four-fifths of its Dragon 32 computer business to investors like the Prudential has reduced borrowings substantially.

Sales were down 11 per cent with particularly difficult export markets during the second-half. The figures are distorted because the sales of miscellaneous plastic pre-school toys produced by the general division were badly down while there was some growth from Dragon computers.

The traditional die-cast toys under the Corgi label will form the backbone of the toy division from now on. But sales there were also down 11 per cent last year, the result of a falling child population which is also maturing at an earlier age.

Exports suffered because the pound was comparatively strong until November and

even now, stronger than it was two months ago, it is causing problems.

This year interest charges will fall with lower borrowings and 200 per cent gearing ratios should be a thing of the past. Orders from this year's toy fairs have been encouraging - with orders up on last year.

But traders remain wary about early deliveries, and reluctant to carry heavy stocks. If Mettoy can get back to breakeven this year but such a target looks ambitious.

A lot of hope lies in the Dragon computer where Mettoy has options to take its stake back up to 35 per cent if profits targets are met. The aim is £2m profits this year but some estimates are for up to £5m.

The big worry is that until Mettoy can get its toy division to stand on its own it will never be independent of a minority stake in Dragon and the good results expected there.

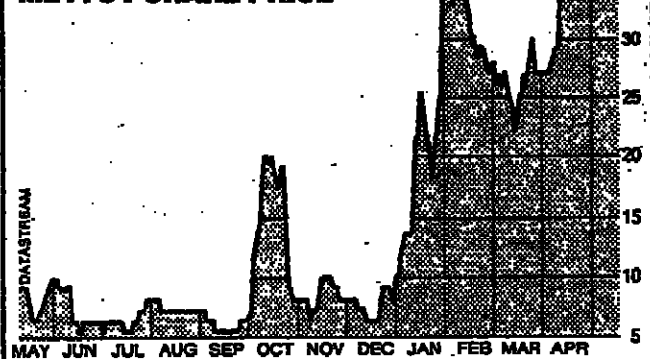
Duport

Duport Year to 31.1.83
Pretax loss £1.1m (£325,000)
Stated loss per share 3.4p (0.7p)
Turnover £58.1m (£72.4m)
Net loss dividend, nil
Share price 20.5p up 1.5p.

Duport survived the steel-making crisis in the private sector by the skin of its teeth two years ago. Since then it has continued to rationalize its



METTOY SHARE PRICE



businesses, selling the loss-making Slumberland bed manufacturing operations in Britain and Australia, and closing two foundries during the past year.

However, there is still little for shareholders to cheer about. Figures for the year to January 31, show that pretax losses have increased to £1.1m against £325,000 in 1981 on a turnover down from £72m to £58m. And the message from the Duport board is that there are no signs of the much-needed recovery in any of its main manufacturing areas.

All the company will admit to is that things have stopped getting worse. It adds a laconic rider to the effect that if this is what is meant by recovering then: "Yes, we are seeing it."

dividend on first and second preference shares, although payment of a dividend on the ordinary shares has been passed for the second consecutive year. At 2 1/2p the shares are available at option prices to be bought for speculative recovery only. There is a chance of a resumption of dividend payments in the second half of the year but shareholders should not expect too much, too soon.

Eurobonds

Stagnant interest rates, a surplus of paper, some of it very complicated, and a drop in the volume of American borrowing have conspired to keep the Eurobond market quiet. Borrowers and lenders alike are essentially waiting for clearer economic indicators, especially in the United States, before they renew trading.

The German bond calendar will be discussed on May 20 and is expected to be smaller than recent months in which German companies have been heavy fund raisers.

The already confused market was further baffled by Monday's cryptic remark from Mr Preston Martin, deputy to Mr Paul Volcker at the United States Federal Reserve, that M1 was no longer a reliable indicator. Does this mean that the Fed has no idea of what is happening, or is it a coded hint that M1 rises need not prevent interest rates from falling?

This overall uncertainty has been compounded by the performance of particular sectors of the Eurobond market. Bank issues are only now being properly digested after trading two to three points down over the past month. There is still a view, however, that German and Japanese bank paper is fairly cheap.

Investors also seem to have lost faith in warrants. Until last week, the added spice of acquiring equities was attractive. But falling equity prices have left some galling premiums.

Indeed, the ICI issue admirably illustrates the density of detail with which investors are expected to grapple. They can buy the paper-cum-warrant for \$114, or the bond ex-warrant for \$98, or the warrant for \$160. They can convert each \$5,000 bond into sterling at a fixed rate of \$1.5775 (present exchange rate \$1.5540) and obtain for the five warrants with each bond 117 ICI shares at 550p (present price 452p).

It is not surprising therefore, that dealers now expect strong demand for straight issues from top quality borrowers rather like the Watney debenture in the British market.

The Japanese Government may come to the market soon and paper such as the Ontario Hydro 10 1/2, 1990 went well. But if United States interest rates do come down and bond prices rise, all that could change too.

COMMODITIES

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

Prices in pounds per metric ton
Silver in pence per fine ounce

Commodity	Price
High grade copper	1146.50-1147.50
Cash	1172-1173.50
Three months	1172-1173.50
Standard cathode (copper)	1110-1112.00
Cash	1105-1106.50
Three months	1105-1106.50
Lead	885-890.00
Cash	885-890.00
Three months	885-890.00
Zinc	474.50-475.50
Cash	474.50-475.50
Three months	474.50-475.50
Aluminium	670.5-671.5
Cash	670.5-671.5
Three months	670.5-671.5
Nickel	3300-3305
Cash	3300-3305
Three months	3300-3305

L.M.E. TURNOVER

Copper: higher grade, 13,300 tonnes; Standard cathode, 550 tonnes; Tin: standard, 450 tonnes; Lead: 2,425 tonnes; Zinc: 1,000 tonnes; Silver: 30 lots of 10,000 ozs. each; Aluminium: 5,850 tonnes; Nickel: 450 tonnes.

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES

Rubber in £'s per tonne; Soyabean meal in £'s per tonne; L.P.E. in £'s per metric ton; Sale in U.S. per cwt.

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Financial notebook

Why rate reform is always stymied

Few would disagree with Mrs Thatcher that local property rates are "not a good system of taxation". Yet, despite their disproportionate unpopularity among house-owning voters and business alike, despite independent commissions, select committees and a high-powered cabinet committee fruitlessly devoted to redeeming election pledges on domestic rates, no one has come up with a simple way of replacing them.

For householders, rates are far from being a crushing burden, since they pay for only around a sixth of local council spending. The problem with rates is mainly that, unless you are a council tenant, they come in two importunate demands each year.

Those on PAYE, who never see the tax deducted, probably dread income tax less than the self-employed, who may well pay less tax on the same income, but have to pay it in lumps when the money may already have been spent. In this sense, much of the outcry against domestic rates might be eased by a system of regular payments.

The case against rates on competitive business is more fundamental. Industry and commerce will probably have to pay 150% in local rates this year, much more than householders.

More important, business will pay as much in rates as it is forecast to pay in corporation tax, even more if you exclude North Sea oil companies.

Corporation tax is a complex affair, intentionally avoidable by companies using their profits to expand and hedge round with all sorts of exemptions to make it fairer. And you do not pay anything unless you make a profit or pay a dividend.

Local rates, by contrast, are an unpredictable, unavoidable impost on companies' overhead costs. They bear no relation to industry's ability to pay. There are no regular rebates for the poor.

Rates are part of a ludicrous system that taxes business costs rather than profits. This is not so important for those who can pass on the tax because their competitors face the same impost - such as banks and some retailers. But it is vital for industries competing on price to export or keep out imports.

Industry has two arguments in principle to abolish industrial rates. Most business owners have no vote where their rates are fixed, so business rates play little part in responsible local democracy. Indeed, the revenue applies since local councils which vote the rates have no responsibility for national industry policy.

More directly, industry can point to Britain's successful farmers as a precedent for relief. Agricultural land was relieved of rates in 1928 when farmers struggled with a long depression. That exemption has persisted to these prosperous, protected times.

Ironically, industry was three-quarters derated in 1929 and kept some relief until the prosperous days of 1961. Yet now, it is industry that needs all the help it can get.

As the long wrangling over the National Insurance surcharge showed, no government is eager to forgo a big source of revenue, however much harm its distorting effects may do to the economy. But business rates are in any case subordinated to the politically more important question of domestic rates.

The impasse there arises from a basic problem: the structure of local government is geared to the functions each unit has to perform. The size and pattern of local authorities has been fixed with little or no attention to their tax base.

Hence property rates are a wholly inadequate tax to finance local government functions.

On the other hand there are far too many local government units to allow sales or income taxes to be fixed at different local levels. This would require semi-regional government. That is why rate reform is stymied.

Graham Searjeant

Jonathan Clare looks at Britain's new breed of shopkeepers

Quiet revolution in the high street



Driving force: (from left) Gerald Ronson, Cyril Spencer, Sir Terence Conran, Ralph Halpern, Sir James Hanson

The high street is in turmoil and there are too many opportunities that cannot be ignored, Sir Terence Conran said last week as he unexpectedly, if quietly, bowed out of the chair at J Hepworth after just over a year.

Turmoil is putting it kindly but the message about opportunities was unambiguous with Sir Terence making little secret of his ambitions for the Mothercare half of Habitat Mothercare where he is executive chairman.

But it is not clear whether we are seeing just a recession-induced bloodletting or whether the emergence of the likes of Mr Gerald Ronson and Sir James Hanson as would-be retailers marks the start of a revolution.

A not uncommon view is that the emergence of the new retailers is the last fling of the latter-day Charles Clowes. When Mr Ronson was formulating his plans for the Heron Corporation-backed consortium bid for UDS, interest rates were falling and looked set to fall a lot further than they have done.

Property, of which UDS has a great deal, must have looked very attractive to someone who built up Britain's second largest private company on investment in bricks and mortar. The same thoughts were in the minds of the consortium which decided enough was enough and bid for FW Woolworth last year.

Whether those assets - either at Woolworth or UDS - can be realized is a different matter. The second attraction for the new retailers is that retailing is far removed from the problems of manufacturing, an area which Mr Ronson, if not Sir James, has kept well clear of.

Customers of the high street shops have real rising incomes, the management of the business is straightforward, exchange rates do not enter into the picture; indeed the application of any sort of stringent test does not leave active entrepreneurs with many options.

Best of all, retailing is a cash generating business and not a

cash consuming one - something which would appeal equally to Mr Ronson or Sir James. For all the appeal of high technology it can be an expensive thing to dabble in.

Nobody knows whether Mr Ronson of Sir James can run a high street business. Mr Ronson has yet to acquire his shops even if he has secured a spotlight retailer, Mr Cyril Spencer. Sir James is playing his cards so close to his chest that it is still unclear whether he is serious about being a shopkeeper.

The best customers shop for image, not utility

If property is the big attraction, either could be on a hiding to nothing if inflation continues at its low levels with a consequent standstill in property values. The same is true for the pension funds which joined together to buy Woolworth. In fact, long term, the promise of armchair shopping - one of the reasons Sears was keen on fostering the aborted Empire Stores-Grattan merger - and the "office of the future", could make commercial property redundant in investment terms.

is getting shorter. On any 10-year performance table, Woolworth and UDS would have been propping up the bottom with Debenhams not far above. In simplistic terms, that makes Debenhams next on the list, especially with Mr Ronson's rumoured interest. No doubt many entrepreneurs will be looking at tomorrow's figures with more than usual interest.

House of Fraser cannot be much further ahead either, though its complicated relationship with Lorrho and the future of Harrods cloud the picture. Eliminate these four and the smell of success begins to waft through - the Burton Group, Marks & Spencer, Habitat, Mothercare and, who knows, maybe even Hepworth.

So why do some retailers succeed when others fail in the same field after a disaster? The answer is painfully simple. The retail sector is far more mature and much more competitive than anybody believed. "This was disguised for a long period by inflation, which provided an illusion of growth. Retailers suddenly woke up to this, and therefore, we got visible evidence that a number were making laughably low returns", Mr John Richard of Capel-Cure Myers, the stock-brokers, says.

Strip away that illusory growth and you are left with a number of companies with poor financial control, poor management control and bad buying. You need look no further than UDS or Woolworth. The key to success is the ability to increase market share and generate real volume gains. Burton's likely ability to sell clothes to older women over 25, a market where Hepworth's pioneering Next has been very successful, will stop it becoming another has-been, mature business.

Market share comes from asking the right questions about your customers and what they want, and then following the ones who have money to spend. Customers with aspirations are particularly favoured. They shop in Habitat or even Burton's Top Notch for image, not utility. That is one reason why Mr Ralph Halpern, Burton's chairman, believes that mighty Marks & Spencer will be forced to follow his lead in the not far distant future.

Don't forget that Burton has an old score to settle; Marks & Spencer's foray into convenient menswear hit the traditional Burton suit market hard. Now M&S's staid dominance of the menswear market looks a little more vulnerable than it once did.

Price is not everything, though there is an obvious trade-off between margin and the speed at which goods leave the shelves. In the clothing sector more than any other, design and quality have become just as important. Price was the watchword only in the days when buyers were stalking Oxford Street to see what the young things were wearing before getting them run off in sweat shops within days.

Hepworth's Next chain was early to spot the change. It started to cater for the young, but not teenagers, customer who wanted sophisticated clothes rather than leopard skin leotards. Burton is breathing hard down its neck with Top Notch departments in Top

Successful retailing depends on design flair

Shops and Expressions in Dorothy Perkins. And Mr Halpern would dearly like to buy the Richard Shops chain from Sir James, his new owner, to form a ready-made chain to corner that market.

There are two reasons for this change in emphasis. First, high teenage unemployment means they are no longer as free-spending as they were. Second, demographic changes mean that the average age of women is increasing so that the bulk of potential customers will fall into the 25-plus bracket.

This age group will soon hold most high street spending power even though their cash has traditionally been committed to young families and big mortgages.

Menswear is going through a similar change, hence the age group that the new-look Hepworth is picking for in the colour supplements.

In terms of product, leisure is the area which will grow. So we have burgeoning chains of sports shops, sportswear in the traditional clothes shops and Sears' decision to switch away from the food and towards leisure goods in its department stores.

Successful retailing depends on design flair: this may explain the attraction of Mothercare to Sir Terence Conran and his decision to clear the decks by leaving Hepworth. Despite the success for Habitat, his design strength could be even better fitted to clothing because fashion changes in furniture so seldom.

If a retailer can get all three points right, personality is an added bonus. The common thread between the Lord Siffrs, Ralph Halpern, Cyril Spencer and Sir Terence Conrans of this world is that they have the drive and motivation to put their plans into effect.

Whether they could do something with the traditional department stores is a moot point. The future there looks gloomy. House of Fraser is an uninspiring retailer but Harrods has weathered the recession much better than its traditional departmental stores. An improvement should come with greater spending and more tourists in London - but it will not be of the management's making.

Sears' department stores are an even more extreme case. Apart from Selfridges, they are largely provincial. This means they have felt the sharp end of recession with many of their customers unemployed. The way ahead, both short term and long term, is unclear.

Tesco calls for action on retail jobs

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

The quickening pace of information technology in industries like retailing makes it unlikely that the service industries will continue indefinitely to absorb the job losses in manufacturing, according to Mr Donald Harris, director of distribution, administration and computing at Tesco Stores.

In the latest of Tesco's occasional papers exploring the future of retailing he said that in 30 years to 1980 the manufacturing workforce fell by 35 per cent to 5.8 million, with the majority of the job losses absorbed by service industries which showed a near 31 per cent increase to 13.01 million.

The distributive trades now employed one eighth of Britain's workforce and generated more than 10 per cent of the gross national product.

There had been suggestions that by 1990 the application of advanced technology systems to the distributive industry could lead to a 10 per cent cut in its workforce. That would mean 250,000 lost jobs, said Mr Harris.

A recent University of Loughborough study forecast a 12 per cent decline in the workforce of the big five clearing banks by 1990, eliminating 25,000 jobs, he added.

Meanwhile, the National Economic Development Council forecast recently that there would be little reduction in the present, unacceptably high levels of unemployment in the years immediately ahead.

A positive attitude towards the introduction of high technology was necessary to secure economic stability for economic growth, Mr Harris said.

There were more than 40 stores in Britain with electronic point of sale systems, but estimates suggested that more than 200,000 installations would be operational by 1988 at an investment cost of about £600m.

"Counter Revolution: The Tesco Papers 1975-1982 (Tesco Stores, Delamare Road, Chesham, Herts EN8 9SL: £2 plus postage). IT and the Distribution Trades, by Donald Harris, from Tesco Stores.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	10 %
Barclays	10 %
BCCI	10 %
Consolidated Crds	10 %
C. Hoare & Co	10 %
Lloyds Bank	10 %
Midland Bank	10 %
Nat Westminster	10 %
TSB	10 %
Williams & Glyn's	10 %

* 7 day deposits on basis of overdraft £10,000, 6m, £200,000 and over £500,000. 7% £200,000 and over, 8%.

CONCEPT AND PRACTICE OF MANAGEMENT IN UNILEVER

"We have some basic principles that, even in changing times, endure."

Mr. Kenneth Durham, Chairman of Unilever PLC, examined the strengths of Unilever's managerial philosophy in a speech at the Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, 18 May 1983. This is a summary of some of the points he made.

The sheer size of a company like Unilever means that it has an important economic influence in those parts of the world in which it operates. Equally Unilever is affected by a wide and varying economic environment.

The next decade will be a period of heightened difficulties for big business; difficulties stemming largely from an unpredictable world economy and the political and social instabilities consequent on a period of low economic activity and high unemployment.

As we devise our strategies and put together plans for the future, we draw on two important strengths of Unilever. The first is the flexible and pragmatic approach we have to problems, and the second is the fact that we have some basic and guiding principles that, even in changing times, endure.

- In spite of recession, we continue with our long-term plans for management development and we continually seek to recruit and train top quality people who will be able to guide the Company in the years ahead.
- We maintain an overall strong financial position to enable us to meet any contingencies. This provides us with the flexibility to ensure that the operational requirements of the business are not constrained by lack of finance. At the end of last year our gearing stood at 26% and our net liquid funds amounted to £389 million.
- Our investment remains at a high level and we continue to allocate resources to the latest developments in technology. We actively seek growth, both from investment in organic development and, when necessary, by acquisition. In 1982 we invested £431 million and spent £76 million on acquisitions.

- We constantly strive for greater efficiency, whether it be in our use of funds, in our factories, our distribution systems, or in our Head Offices. We have consistently achieved significant productivity increases even in the absence of volume growth, and productivity has increased on average by 5½% over the last five years.
- We support strong brands by theme advertising and we actively co-operate with the trade. We continue to improve the quality of our products and we constantly seek for innovative ideas for new products. Consequently we maintain in real terms our research effort and in 1982 we actually increased it. This we consider central to our plans for future growth and development.
- Our organisation is built on short communication lines and delegation. It is a management philosophy which means that our subsidiary companies have the freedom to act within an overall Unilever Plan. At the centre we are concerned only with those matters which are essential to the long-term objectives of the Company as a whole and which relate to evaluation of performance against plans.

These enduring principles are the essential pillars of our business and each has been tried and proven in operation. These principles give us a flexibility which, despite our size, allows us to react quickly to changes in the economic environment.

Managing for Change

This flexibility is important because, despite our firm commitment to long-term objectives and strategies, we have to run the business in the short term, taking account of the realities of the existing situation. That is why our basic plans, whilst reflecting the strategic aims, are relatively short-term and do not extend more than two years from the planning year.

As I have already said, the essence of our concept of management is that of decentralisation and we organise and run our business on that basis. We believe that we derive great strength from our 500 or so

individual operating companies and they have a large degree of autonomy. They are autonomous in the sense that, within a broad Unilever policy framework, their boards are free to conduct their company affairs. Our business is largely, although not entirely, in branded and packaged consumer products and this means that we must know the local market-place well and understand its basic requirements if we are successfully to satisfy its needs. This usually means that we also have to manufacture in the country concerned.

The autonomy of these companies and the preservation of their own character is one of the most typical features of Unilever. That our subsidiary companies operate mostly under their own names, rather than under the name of Unilever, is part of this philosophy of decentralisation. It also means that the decisions are taken, as far as possible, by the management of the operating companies. They are closest to the market-place and they know best the requirements of the consumer, both now and for the future.

But we ensure that the total strength of Unilever is greater than that of the sum of its individual units. This is one of the key tasks of the three-man Special Committee which oversees the business as a whole, and of which I form a part together with the Chairman of Unilever NV, and one other member of our main board. In doing this job we are supported by central specialist divisions like Personnel, Finance, Research and Engineering, and others.

We believe this system of active decentralisation encourages initiative and innovation, and develops managerial and entrepreneurial skills, all of which are vital ingredients in the success of the business.

If you would like to receive a copy of Mr. Durham's speech please complete this coupon

To: Public Relations Department, Unilever PLC, P.O. Box 68, Unilever House, London EC4P 4BD.

Name _____

Address _____

Unilever

The Annual General Meeting of Unilever N.V. took place in Rotterdam on the same day. Mr H. F. van den Hoven, Chairman of Unilever N.V., presided and delivered the same speech as Mr Kenneth Durham in London. The Company has published a report made to the British Government under the E.C. Code of Conduct for companies with interests in South Africa. Copies of the report may be obtained from the address alongside.

Granville & Co Limited. (Formerly M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited) 27/28 Lovat Lane, London EC3R 9EB Telephone 01-621 1212 The Over-the-Counter Market									
1982 AS	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Open	Close	%	P/E
142	120	115	Ass Brit Ind Ord	134	-	6.4	4.8	7.8	10.2
158	117	112	Ass Brit Ind CULS	151	-	10.0	6.6	-	-
74	57	52	Airsprung Group	63	+1	6.1	9.7	18.0	18.0
46	28	25	Armstrong & Rhodes	38	-	4.3	15.4	3.1	5.5
345	197	185	Barton Hill	345	+5	11.4	3.2	14.5	18.3
150	100	95	CCI 11.0% Conv Pref	149	-1	15.7	10.5	-	-
270	210	200	Cindico Group	210	-	17.6	8.4	-	-
86	46	42	Deborah Services	46	-1	6.0	13.0	3.0	8.2
97½	77	72	Frank Horsell	96	-	-	-	8.0	8.6
96½	75½	70	Frank Horsell Pr Ord 87	94½	-	8.7	9.2	10.5	11.3
83	61	58	Frederick Parker	62	-	7.1	11.5	3.9	6.2
55	34	30	George Blair	34	-	-	5.9	12.3	-
109	74	68	Ind Prec Castings	76	-	7.3	9.6	9.7	12.3
175	100	95	Isis Conv Pref	175	-	15.7	9.0	-	-
149	94	88	Jackson Group	149	+1	7.5	5.0	4.6	9.5
225	111	105	James Burroughs	223	-	9.6	4.3	16.3	18.1
260	148	140	Robert Jenkins	148	-	30.0	13.5	1.6	22.5
83	54	50	Scrimshaw 7.5	57	-	5.7	8.5	8.7	10.5
167	110	105	Torday & Cadell	112	+2	11.4	10.2	5.0	8.6
39	31	28	Unilock Holdings	26	-	0.46	1.8	-	-
85	64	60	Walter Alexander	67	-	6.4	9.6	4.8	6.9
270	214	205	W. S. Yates	265	-	17.1	6.5	4.1	8.5

Prices now available on Prestel, page 48146

SUN ALLIANCE INSURANCE GROUP

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of Sun Alliance and London Insurance plc was held yesterday at the Head Office of the Company in Bartholomew Lane, London, E.C.2.

Lord Aldington, the Chairman, presided and in addressing the Meeting stated:-

"I have two things to add to my statement. First about Board appointments. You will like to know that my colleagues intend at the next Board Meeting to elect Mr Henry Lambert as a Deputy Chairman, jointly with Lord Aberconway. They also intend to elect Sir Derrick Holden-Brown as a Vice Chairman jointly with Lord Crawford.

Second, in accordance with the practice that has been developed in recent years in the first quarter of 1983, I must emphasise - as I have always said - that the estimated results for one quarter cannot be considered as a reliable guide for the outcome of the full year.

At home our underwriting loss was substantially lower than in 1982, largely because in 1983 we were much less heavily affected by weather claims.

Overseas results were better in a number of countries including Canada, but that improvement was offset by an increase in the underwriting loss in Australia, largely caused by the bush fires which we estimate cost us nearly £3½ million.

Our Reinsurance experience I am sorry to tell you continues bad, indeed it has further worsened.

There was a satisfactory growth in Investment Income.

And overall, in contrast to 1982, we estimate that there was a profit in the first quarter."

A Vote of Thanks to the Directors and Staff was proposed by Mr A. V. Alexander.

Redfearn Glass goes deeper into the red

The latest results follow two very difficult years for Hartwells, 1980 being the best previous year with pretax profits of £2.86m.

while that of the heating services and bulk fuel oil distribution section rose from £42.6m to £44.25m.

With earnings per share up from 9.3p (adjusted) to 14.2p, the total dividend, on a gross basis, is being lifted from 5.62p.

During the year the average number of employees was cut by a further 6.5 per cent to 1,865. The year's results were also helped by the general reductions in interest rates, with interest charges at £710,000 being held at the previous year's level.

The company traditionally makes little or no profit in the first half because of the long period of closure in production over Christmas when there are furnace repairs. The continued deterioration in the market for glass containers is another factor. The half year dividend

Pretax losses rose from £624,000 in the comparable period of last year to £982,000 on sales about 3 per cent lower at £31m.

Sales to the spirits industry were much lower. While there is reason to believe they will recover during the remainder of the year, the market for soft drink glass containers is on a long term decline with alternative forms of packaging in increasing use.

The company said that while there are opportunities for improving its position in the market, the outlook for glass containers was not encouraging and that continued adjustments to the cost base are necessary. The company had already announced a series of measures including a further 300 redundancies and this programme was being accelerated.

Record profits for British Midland

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

British Midland Airways, which claims to be the country's largest independent domestic airline, is expected to announce record profits for last year. The previous record was in 1977 when it made £1.6m.

Mr Michael Bishop, chairman and managing director said: "We have recovered in sharp style from the difficulties that most world airlines have been experiencing in the last two to three years."

The company, which operates a fleet of 100 aircraft on domestic routes, claims to be the largest passenger volume in Britain after British Airways. Last year it carried 1.5 million passengers and this year expects to reach 1.7 million.

Profit for last year, which will be announced in the next few weeks, had been achieved without the benefit of the Scottish trunk routes which were operated from October and as a result further

Unprofitability 'is causing reinsurance rates to rise'

By Lorna Bourke

Unprofitability in the reinsurance market is leading to some hardening of rates worldwide, says Mercantile General Insurance, one of the top 10 reinsurance companies in the world and the biggest in the United Kingdom.

M&G has increased its technical reserves by £60m to £277m, representing 85 per cent of premium income for the year. The company also has additional claims made from reinsurance business written many years ago.

"We believe that this demonstration of financial strength and realistic reserving is appropriate at a time when the security of reinsurance cover is rightly coming under increasing scrutiny from purchasers of evidence that an increasing number of reinsurers were prepared to lose business rather than continue at unrealistic and unsound terms - and there have also been some significant withdrawals from the reinsurance market", it said.

Wave-power pressure

By David Young

Vickers, the engineering group, has accused the Department of Energy of apathy over the development of wave-power as a source of electricity for remote coastal areas.

The group's subsidiary Vickers Design and Projects has spent the past five years studying wave-power technology a pilot power station's life is accepted.

The Department of Energy has now ended funding for continued feasibility studies because, say Vickers, of funds being channelled towards the nuclear programme.

WALL STREET

[illegible]

JULIANA'S HOLDINGS PLC

(Incorporated in England under the Companies Acts 1948 to 1967 No 1172914)

Offer for Sale by Tender
by
Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited
of

1,350,000 ordinary shares of 2p each at a minimum tender price of 225p per share, the price tendered being payable in full on application

SHARE CAPITAL

Authorized		Issued and now being issued fully paid
£115,000	Ordinary shares of 2p each	£110,000

The Application List for the shares now offered for sale will open at 10.00 a.m. on Tuesday 24th May, 1983 and may be closed at any time thereafter. Copies of the Prospectus (on the terms of which alone applications will be considered), with Application Forms, are available from:

Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited.
New Issue Department,
21 Austin Friars.

Rowe & Pitman.
City Gate House,
39-45 Finsbury Square.

Morgan Grenfell (Scotland) Limited.
35 St Andrew Square,
Edinburgh.

and from the following branches of National Westminster Bank PLC

New Issues Department,
Drapers Gardens,
12 Throgmorton Avenue, London EC2.

5 Bennetts Hill, Birmingham. 117 St. Mary Street, Cardiff. 80 George Street, Edinburgh.
4 Blythswood Square, Glasgow. 8 Park Row, Leeds. 55 King Street, Manchester.
33 Corn Street, Bristol. 22 Castle Street, Liverpool.

The Offer for Sale is advertised in full with an Application Form in the Financial Times and the Daily Telegraph today.

[illegible]

By Alan Gibson

[illegible]

MCC captaincy for Hampshire

John Hampshire, the former England batsman, will captain MCC's first XI at the University at Leeds on May 25 to 27.

TEAM: J H Hampshire (Captain), capt. J B Baker (Durham), J B Coles (Leeds), D D Heywood (South Australia), R E Heywood (Hampshire), R A Huxton (Yorkshire), G R Caines (Sussex), S D Higgs (Warwickshire), J W Hales (Yorkshire), F D Thomas (Middlesex), N W Wilson (Sussex).

FOURDAYS: Middlesex vs Glamorgan 1. Glamorgan 1st Glamorgan 1.

FIVE DAYS: Hampshire 222 for 6, Yorkshire 114-14-22 for 5, Leicestershire 114-14-22 for 5, 11-29-21, O'Shaughnessy 11-14-14-22 for 5, 11-25-22, Simmons 1-4-2-0, Hampshire 222a best Yorkshire 0 on laster day.

CORRECTION: Yorkshire 114-14-22 for 5, not 11-29-21.

CORRECTION: May 18: Yorkshire previously D L Hainstock & Foley at Ailcot, not as in preceding page.

ATHL

Consolidation Hull was

The lesson has been learnt in Hull's first month: never again will the club allow its players to drink too much.

L. The crowd could be heard popping in expectation of the city's leading Rugby League club winning the Challenge Cup and Premiership trophies at Wembley. The football team at least had promotion from the fourth division to celebrate, but their grip on the championship was loosened when the prize might have gone to them.

M. Members of Hull Athletic Club are understandably not shouting too loudly about their chances of winning the United Kingdom women's track and field league competition, Coed Eborac, as the margin goes, is what counts in the first season in the first division.

N. Not that City of Hull have been backward in claiming for you all the credit. In 1976 they joined the Northern League fourth division and since then have won promotion in seven successive seasons. Each time they have gone up as champions.

O. The league has never known anything like it but to think of the championship is to dream the impossible dream. We are a team which may see Robert Schofield, the Hull manager, says. The club relies on team spirit and promising youngsters and Schofield will need plenty of that on Saturday when the first of the season's three fixtures begins at Alderston.

P. Missing from his squad will be Hull's only two senior internationals and one of them, Caroline Whitehurst, a 400 metres runner, will be out for the season as pregnancy has interrupted her athletic progress.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

CRICKET

Gloucestershire and Herefordshire v Kent (11.4 to 7.30).
Derbyshire v Lancashire.
Warwickshire v Essex.
Sussex v Hampshire.
Kent v Gloucestershire.
Hampshire v Warwickshire.

Dilley: admirable fire and control

By Peter Ball

out of Knott's aerobic leaping catch, Surrey were in the tails. Underwood immediately came on to persuade Knight to proceed forward, giving a simple catch to short leg. Underwood's arrival seemed significant and when the rain came down heavily lunchtime two options seemed likely.

Either the rain would continue to give Surrey an undesired victory or fast rain, scorching rain or plain would resume and Underwood would bowl them out.

In fact, neither happened. The sun shone and, as happened on Tuesday after lunch, the wicket seemed more docile. When play restarted at 3.15 Lynch began to bow with increasing comfort. After

By Our Sports Staff

luncheon ended hopes of the match being resumed. Yorkshire with 136 wickets in hand still needed 136 runs to win. The Lancashire batsmen were leaving Lancashire the richer by two points at stake on a fastest-scoring rate. The Lancashire scorers are: Steve Smith 136, Ray Illingworth 100, the first century in a game. With only one point from three games Yorkshire are almost out of the quarter-final round. Ray Illingworth, their manager, said: "I am disappointed that Yorkshire cricket that although this is a disappointment, I wasn't surprised because we bowled and fielded reasonably well and with a little tightening up we could have won. But the day's betting has let us down this week."

Worcestershire will be strengthened by the inclusion of the Western Indian allrounder Collis King from Gloucestershire. King has 100 runs at 20 a tonshire at Worcester today. King, who scored 123 on his first county championship appearance for Worcestershire last week was not in the team for the first time since last Sunday because he was playing for his Lancashire League club, Colne. He replaces Damian D'Oliveira. Worcestershire are also leaving out

Rome (Reuter). — José Higuera

Exit Miss Mandlikova

From a Special Correspondent
The French Open only five days away Hana Mandlikova, former women's singles champion there, has been forced to withdraw from the German Open in Vienna today. Miss Mandlikova, the 1980 champion in Paris seeded fifth here, was a badly blistered right hand.

By John Hennessy, Golf Correspondent

consistency of a year ago. He has truly won a tournament, the Open, but on other occasions he has seemed unlike the sure striker of golf through the green.

Faldo is in prime form and his confidence seems to be sky-high after his performance on Sunday. He has won 39 holes in as long as 14, including three in the play-off, without a five on his card. He has the opportunity to turn the clock back a quarter of a century, if it is not too late.

In 1958, that player last won three successive tournaments. That was Peter Alliss, he of the silver-tongued microphone manner, who made his name in the British and Foreign golf distant summer.

The Car Care Plan, launched last year ago, is already appreciated. It is a plan, as long as it is associated with a better site, better equipment, better car show and better general atmosphere. The course, living up to its name, has analysed the problems of the driving deluge, although the greens are bumpy and unpredictable. Single-putt birdies will require exceptional precision of iron play to connect with the putter and perhaps both.

By Lewine Mail

second round with a seven at the fourteenth (350 yards), where he shot seven straight round towards the beach.

Miss Wright, Shirley Lawson and Gillian Stewart, several others, had to wait in front of the clubhouse for not until they arrived at the seventeenth that the familiar figure of the former Scottish champion, Joan Lawrence, chased up the hill to issue the starting order.

Jane Connachan, the holder, has a second 77 which, like the first, featured a maddening number of missed putts.

SECOND ROUND: 145. C Robertson (145); 146: P Wilson (146); 147: 148: S Gallagher (Pittburgh); 74: 75: 76: 77: 78: 79: 80: 81: 82: 83: 84: 85: 86: 87: 88: 89: 90: 91: 92: 93: 94: 95: 96: 97: 98: 99: 100: 101: 102: 103: 104: 105: 106: 107: 108: 109: 110: 111: 112: 113: 114: 115: 116: 117: 118: 119: 120: 121: 122: 123: 124: 125: 126: 127: 128: 129: 130: 131: 132: 133: 134: 135: 136: 137: 138: 139: 140: 141: 142: 143: 144: 145: 146: 147: 148: 149: 150: 151: 152: 153: 154: 155: 156: 157: 158: 159: 160: 161: 162: 163: 164: 165: 166: 167: 168: 169: 170: 171: 172: 173: 174: 175: 176: 177: 178: 179: 180: 181: 182: 183: 184: 185: 186: 187: 188: 189: 190: 191: 192: 193: 194: 195: 196: 197: 198: 199: 200: 201: 202: 203: 204: 205: 206: 207: 208: 209: 210: 211: 212: 213: 214: 215: 216: 217: 218: 219: 220: 221: 222: 223: 224: 225: 226: 227: 228: 229: 230: 231: 232: 233: 234: 235: 236: 237: 238: 239: 240: 241: 242: 243: 244: 245: 246: 247: 248: 249: 250: 251: 252: 253: 254: 255: 256: 257: 258: 259: 260: 261: 262: 263: 264: 265: 266: 267: 268: 269: 270: 271: 272: 273: 274: 275: 276: 277: 278: 279: 280: 281: 282: 283: 284: 285: 286: 287: 288: 289: 290: 291: 292: 293: 294: 295: 296: 297: 298: 299: 300: 301: 302: 303: 304: 305: 306: 307: 308: 309: 310: 311: 312: 313: 314: 315: 316: 317: 318: 319: 320: 321: 322: 323: 324: 325: 326: 327: 328: 329: 330: 331: 332: 333: 334: 335: 336: 337: 338: 339: 340: 341: 342: 343: 344: 345: 346: 347: 348: 349: 350: 351: 352: 353: 354: 355: 356: 357: 358: 359: 360: 361: 362: 363: 364: 365: 366: 367: 368: 369: 370: 371: 372: 373: 374: 375: 376: 377: 378: 379: 380: 381: 382: 383: 384: 385: 386: 387: 388: 389: 390: 391: 392: 393: 394: 395: 396: 397: 398: 399: 400: 401: 402: 403: 404: 405: 406: 407: 408: 409: 410: 411: 412: 413: 414: 415: 416: 417: 418: 419: 420: 421: 422: 423: 424: 425: 426: 427: 428: 429: 430: 431: 432: 433: 434: 435: 436: 437: 438: 439: 440: 441: 442: 443: 444: 445: 446: 447: 448: 449: 450: 451: 452: 453: 454: 455: 456: 457: 458: 459: 460: 461: 462: 463: 464: 465: 466: 467: 468: 469: 470: 471: 472: 473: 474: 475: 476: 477: 478: 479: 480: 481: 482: 483: 484: 485: 486: 487: 488: 489: 490: 491: 492: 493: 494: 495: 496: 497: 498: 499: 500: 501: 502: 503: 504: 505: 506: 507: 508: 509: 510: 511: 512: 513: 514: 515: 516: 517: 518: 519: 520: 521: 522: 523: 524: 525: 526: 527: 528: 529: 530: 531: 532: 533: 534: 535: 536: 537: 538: 539: 540: 541: 542: 543: 544: 545: 546: 547: 548: 549: 550: 551: 552: 553: 554: 555: 556: 557: 558: 559: 560: 561: 562: 563: 564: 565: 566: 567: 568: 569: 570: 571: 572: 573: 574: 575: 576: 577: 578: 579: 580: 581: 582: 583: 584: 585: 586: 587: 588: 589: 590: 591: 592: 593: 594: 595: 596: 597: 598: 599: 600: 601: 602: 603: 604: 605: 606: 607: 608: 609: 610: 611: 612: 613: 614: 615: 616: 617: 618: 619: 620: 621: 622: 623: 624: 625: 626: 627: 628: 629: 630: 631: 632: 633: 634: 635: 636: 637: 638: 639: 640: 641: 642: 643: 644: 645: 646: 647: 648: 649: 650: 651: 652: 653: 654: 655: 656: 657: 658: 659: 660: 661: 662: 663: 664: 665: 666: 667: 668: 669: 670: 671: 672: 673: 674: 675: 676: 677: 678: 679: 680: 681: 682: 683: 684: 685: 686: 687: 688: 689: 690: 691: 692: 693: 694: 695: 696: 697: 698: 699: 700: 701: 702: 703: 704: 705: 706: 707: 708: 709: 710: 711: 712: 713: 714: 715: 716: 717: 718: 719: 720: 721: 722: 723: 724: 725: 726: 727: 728: 729: 730: 731: 732: 733: 734: 735: 736: 737: 738: 739: 740: 741: 742: 743: 744: 745: 746: 747: 748: 749: 750: 751: 752: 753: 754: 755: 756: 757: 758: 759: 760: 761: 762: 763: 764: 765: 766: 767: 768: 769: 770: 771: 772: 773: 774: 775: 776: 777: 778: 779: 780: 781: 782: 783: 784: 785: 786: 787: 788: 789: 790: 791: 792: 793: 794: 795: 796: 797: 798: 799: 800: 801: 802: 803: 804: 805: 806: 807: 808: 809: 810: 811: 812: 813: 814: 815: 816: 817: 818: 819: 820: 821: 822: 823: 824: 825: 826: 827: 828: 829: 830: 831: 832: 833: 834: 835: 836: 837: 838: 839: 840: 841: 842: 843: 844: 845: 846: 847: 848: 849: 850: 851: 852: 853: 854: 855: 856: 857: 858: 859: 860: 861: 862: 863: 86

From a Special Correspondent

Berlin
With the French Open only five days away Hana Mandlikova, former women's singles champion here, has been forced to withdraw from the German Open in West Berlin. Miss Mandlikova, the 1980 champion in Piras seeded fifth here, has a badly blistered right hand.

She Hedges, who is expecting her first baby in September, came safely through the qualifying rounds of the English women's championships at the age of 36. Her husband, John Hedges, aged 36, a Kent housewife, who was runner-up for the title four years ago, had a second 81 for a fourth time. She Hedges had also regained one of the places in the match-play stages starting today.

She Hedges, who has played for Kent for 10 years, said that it was "my last major competition for a while. I am five months pregnant but I've been feeling pretty well up to the task. I've been a bit tired and pains this morning and I am beginning to put on some weight. I feel a bit like Craig Stedman."

She Hedges' husband, David, a Kent player, has been married for 14 years. She now faces the possibility of playing two rounds in the same match-play stage.

"That should not be any problem, although it might have been if we were stroke-play and every shot counted," she said. She does not think it unusual to be playing major competitions to late in pregnancy.

QUALIFIERS: 154: C Nelson (Merdon), 75; 155: J Walter (St Neov), 77; A. Turner (St Neov), 78; 156: P. Cragg (Tarkenton Park), 77; 157: P. Cragg (Tarkenton Park), 77; 158: P. Cragg (Tarkenton Park), 77; 159: P. Cragg (Tarkenton Park), 77; 160: P. Cragg (Tarkenton Park), 77; 161: P. Cragg (Tarkenton Park), 77; 162: P. Cragg (Tarkenton Park), 77; 163: P. Cragg (Tarkenton Park), 77; 164: P. Cragg (Tarkenton Park), 77; 165: P. Cragg (Tarkenton Park), 77; 166: P. Cragg (Tarkenton Park), 77; 167: P. Cragg (Tarkenton Park), 77; 168: P. Cragg (Tarkenton Park), 77; 169: P. Cragg (Tarkenton Park), 77; 170: P. Cragg (Tarkenton Park), 77; 171: P. Cragg (Tarkenton Park), 77; 172: P. Cragg (Tarkenton Park), 77; 173: P. Cragg (Tarkenton Park), 77; 174: P. Cragg (Tarkenton Park), 77; 175: P. Cragg (Tarkenton Park), 77; 176: P. Cragg (Tarkenton Park), 77; 177: P. Cragg (Tarkenton Park), 77; 178: P. Cragg (Tarkenton Park), 77; 179: P. Cragg (Tarkenton Park), 77; 180: P. 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FOOTBALL

By David Powell

ICE HOCKEY

Islanders make it four in a row

Uniondale, New York (Reuter) — The New York Islanders swept to their fourth consecutive National Hockey championship on Tuesday night by defeating the Edmonton Oilers 4-2 to take the best of seven Stanley Cup series 4-0.

Before taking a 3-0 lead in the first period before Edmonton pulled even, the Islanders had already won the second period goals.

However, the Islanders held them off in the third period and with only 59 seconds remaining, the Islanders' Trevor Morrow scored into an empty net.

SCORES SUMMARY New York scores first: May 11: 2-0; May 12: 5-0; May 14: 3-1; May 15: 17-0.

FIRST DIVISION

[illegible]

SECOND DIVISION

Hereford U	45	8	8	9	19	23	3	2
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Ardhe	39	7	3	9	27	27	6	4
Allox Athletic	38	8	7	5	31	21	6	4
	35	5	3	6	28	33	7	3

THE SUBTITLED 48 5 5 11 28 28 2 7 14 15

40 37 Montreal 39 5 2 12 10 55 0 4

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23 56 41 22 pts \$2.80
 211 pts \$3.30

Trouble Cheque Dividends in Units of 1/6p. April 1983 - 32%

22 Pts **F2.85** **120p**

6	9	17	23	25	26	30
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24 PTS..... £16,001-00 | 4 DRAWS £9.30

23 PTS..... £705.52

10 HOMES..... £5115.85

Today's point-to-point
Vale of Aylesbury at Kingston Stour (5.30)

BLINDERS FIRST TIME: Goodwood: 2.0 Fast Topkido, Ract And Ave, Withhorn, Freekil.

STATE OF GAINS: Goodwood: Both horses on at 7.30 tomorrow if overnight. Bl: Peter, Gertie, Lach, Cansie, Mary, Stakes. Harncroft: Robt, Brighters, Gok, Sincroft: Sth.

SCRATCHINGS: Rubeckes, Stakes, Royal Ascot: Escarp, Lach, Cansie, Mary, Stakes. Royal Ascot: Our Gold Digger, Cowenry. Stakes Ascot: Free Light Lane, Labrocas.

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Elizabeth Hunt

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(Rec. Cons.)

Public Appointments

HAMPSHIRE CONSTABULARY APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY CHIEF CONSTABLE

Applications are invited from suitably qualified officers for the post of Deputy Chief Constable of Hampshire Constabulary which will become vacant on 1st September 1983. The salary will be £23,871 per annum. A maximum rent allowance of up to £2,436.48 per annum. A maximum limit of removal expenses will be reimbursed in accordance with Police Regulations.

ASSISTANT CHIEF CONSTABLE

Applications are invited from suitably qualified officers for the post of Assistant Chief Constable in the Hampshire Constabulary which will become vacant on 1st August 1983. The salary will be £21,069 per annum. A maximum limit of removal expenses will be reimbursed in accordance with Police Regulations. The appointments are subject to the Police Act, 1964, the Police Regulations and to such other conditions of service as may from time to time be adopted. Forms of applications may be obtained from the undersigned, to be returned not later than 10th June, 1983.

L. K. Robinson CBE,
Clark to the Hampshire Police Authority,
The Castle, Winchester, SO23 8UJ.

ROYAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND

Director-General

RNIB, founded 1868, the largest voluntary organisation caring for Britain's 130,000 blind people for whom it provides aids and services to the value of £16 million per annum, with a staff of over 1500 employed in 40 establishments throughout the UK, invites applications for the post of Director-General which will become vacant on the retirement of the present incumbent, circa 31 July 1983. Applicants of proven executive ability must have had wide experience as administrative officers, preferably in social welfare work in the voluntary or statutory sectors. Some knowledge of work with blind people desirable. The position calls for administrative and managerial skills of the highest order. You will be responsible for carrying out policies determined by an Executive Council in which blind people themselves have an effective voice, and will have the authority and drive necessary to give positive leadership to an experienced and professional management team at a time when exciting, wide-ranging new projects are afoot. Salary £25,000 per annum. Excellent Pension Scheme with full transferability. Please apply by 13 June with full curriculum vitae, including present position and salary, together with the names of three referees. Applications, with envelopes marked 'Confidential-DG' to the Chairman, RNIB, 224 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6AA. Applicants will be short-listed and interviews held during the week commencing 4 July.

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£13,935 - £15,192 inc. The City Council is seeking a Central Purchasing Manager to control and monitor its new purchasing system. This is a new job and the successful candidate will head a section of 5. The number two and number three posts have yet to be filled. A full purchasing service will be provided for a wide range of commodities. Functional responsibilities of the post will cover central purchasing expenditure of approx £11m. Ability to liaise effectively with all levels of management both inside and outside the Council's service and experience in the development of on line computer facilities is essential. At least 5 years managerial experience at senior executive level within a major purchasing organisation, either public or private sector, is needed. Membership of the Institute of Purchasing and Supply preferred. The City Council offers a modern office in Victoria, SW1, 30 days paid annual holiday plus one day off every 4 weeks and an interest free season ticket loan scheme. Assistance with relocation expenses will be given in approved cases. To obtain application form and job description please send postcard, telephone or call at the Personnel Management Division, PO Box 240, Westminster City Council, City Hall, Victoria Street, SW1E 6QR, Telephone number 01-834 5558 (24 hour answerphone service). Closing date 3rd June, 1983.

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Applications are invited from candidates with relevant qualifications and experience to fill the post of Director of Development Services at the Sports Council's London Headquarters. The person appointed will be responsible to the Director General for the development of the participation, facility, research and information functions of the Council. This involves the formulation of proposals for the development of strategy, their implementation and the preparation and achievement of relevant budgets. Other duties include responsibility for the direction of the Sports Development, Research and Information Units and the Technical Unit for Sport as well as preparation and presentation of papers for the Council and its committees. Applicants will need to have sound knowledge of the development and structure of sport and physical recreation, together with relevant experience in management with probably a local authority or statutory or voluntary agency concerned with sport and recreation. The post carries a salary scale ranging from £20,500 to £24,300 (plus increments pending). This includes a London weighting and a superannuation allowance. Further details and application form available from:

Personnel Unit
(493/2V)
The Sports Council
16 Upper Woburn Place
London WC1N 6QP
Closing Date: 3 June 1983



craftscouncil

HEAD OF ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

The Crafts Council receives a grant from the Government to support the crafts and promote the work of artist craftspeople. It is a registered charity incorporated under Royal Charter and earns further income from publications, a craftshop, and its gallery and information centre near Piccadilly Circus. Other activities include grants, an expanding education programme, exhibitions and a conservation section. This post, which arises from a reorganization, includes particular responsibility for personnel, legal and property matters, servicing meetings of the Council and its committees, and supervision of the work of the accounts section. Applicants should have professional qualifications in a relevant area and previous experience in a similar capacity. Experience of computerized systems and work in a public/government sector would be highly desirable. Salary negotiable in the range £10,887-£13,188 (p. under review) plus 3000 pension scheme and other benefits. For further information and application form contact: Penelope Rhodes, Crafts Council, 8 Woburn Place, London WC1N 6AA. Tel: 01-630 4811 (24-hour answering service) on 01-630 6306. Closing date for receipt of applications: 10th June 1983.

DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY

FOR FILM & VIDEO COMPANY

Our company is involved in the production and distribution of programming for television, video and films. With sales offices in over 10 countries outside the U.K. We're looking for a smart lively and experienced secretary for one of our directors. The hours can be irregular but the position is challenging. Applicants should have first class shorthand and be capable of handling the confidential affairs of the company. A competitive salary will be offered to the successful applicant. Applications together with full C.V. and a map shot should be addressed to:

Anne Legie,
V.C.L. Communications Ltd.,
V.C.L. House,
9A Daffodil St.,
London EC1.

Executive Secretary

c. £7,000 SW1

MSL are an international name in management selection. We now have an opportunity for an experienced Secretary to join our Executive Search company based in Victoria. Working for one of our Senior Consultants you will be involved in typing confidential reports and correspondence (75%), dealing with clients and candidates as well as assisting with administration and ad hoc research (25%). An interesting position, this will appeal to Secretaries aged 23 years plus who have a good all-round education and several years' secretarial experience. Excellent typing and audio skills as well as a pleasant telephone manner are essential. Word processing experience would be an advantage. Benefits are those you would expect of an international company. Please send full career details or telephone (01-730 0255) to Vicky Green.

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Canada France Germany Ireland
Italy Scandinavia South Africa
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52 Grosvenor Gardens London SW1W 0AW

THE BEST ADVERTISING AGENCY IN LONDON WANTS

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SECRETARIES
We need two exceptional Secretaries. One for our International Team and another for one of the Group's Agencies. Both should be self-motivated and enjoy responsibility and involvement. Knowledge of the Advertising business helps as you will have to handle projects on your own. The person we seek are well-educated, possess excellent skills (shorthand and typing) and like working in a busy environment.

MEDIA SECRETARY
Two of our Media executives also need a Secretary (1st) with very accurate typing and shorthand. The work involves full secretarial and admin responsibilities and client contact. This is a good opportunity to join a very friendly department.

JUNIOR SECRETARY
We also have an excellent opening for a Junior Secretary (1st) to become an important part of one of the Group's thriving small Companies. You'll hold the first desk with clients on 'phone' and you must possess good accurate typing. Good spelling essential.

THE RIGHT SALARIES WILL BE PAID TO THE RIGHT PEOPLE
PLEASE TELEPHONE ROSEMARY COLLINS-BOWGILL ON 01-388 2424

CHALLENGE AND INNOVATION

If you are ready to take on a new concept in business and can cope with all that this demanding and rewarding job offers, you are the person our Information Technology Director needs.

Your bright, intelligent, dedicated, skilled and aged 24-35, will work with him and his Operations Manager, to bring about a whole new area of business in our Consultancy Company. In short, have a role in organising for forums, client liaison, seminar support, making, supporting, professional secretarial skills, and basically support and help run the business.

If you are afraid of hard work, responsibility, dedication over and above normal hours, some travelling, a unique opportunity and a good salary then DON'T call us. Contact: Annabel Dagnall, Administrative Manager, Mounsey and Partners, 13-14 Cornhill Terrace, Regents Park, London NW1. Telephone 01-4886-7777. (No Agencies).

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY IN MEDIA

You are a Senior Secretary/PA. 25+. a good administrator, able to initiate action rather than just take orders. You react well to pressure and enjoy making decisions. You are probably running your office without being noticed or appreciated.

We are a young expanding media agency in Kensington, looking for an Executive Secretary capable of running the general administration of our office. The salary will reflect the importance and responsibility which this executive position carries. If you feel you are now experienced enough to meet the challenge of this rewarding position, please call Barbara on 01-937 6908/3793.

SECRETARY/PA £8,000 p.a.

The Managing Director of a trading company is part of a large international group based at Marble Arch in London's West End. Requires a Secretary/PA. Applicant should have had previous experience at this level and preferably in trading environment, and possess first class secretarial skills. Education up to GCE A-levels is a minimum qualification, and a graduate is preferred. The office is pleasant with personal and career details to:

Personal Director,
Meridian Trade Corporation Limited,
42 Upper Berkeley Street,
London W1H 7PL.

PA/Secretary

The two Directors of young, expanding property development company in W1, urgently need a girl Monday to Friday to work co-ordinating development projects, managing the office, typing correspondence, accounting, telephoning and generally doing the third hand of staff. Hard work, some fun. Salary £7,000 plus.

Telephone 01-629 1019 (No Agencies)

HIGH CLASS WEST-END JEWELLERS

Seek to employ mature and experienced person. Knowledge of Jewellery would be an advantage. Salary by negotiation but would certainly be attractive to the right applicant.

Reply Box No. 02321 The Times.

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Location: Baker Street Salary c. £7,500

Plus benefits, including preferential Mortgage Terms

We are looking for a well educated, career secretary who will have had several years experience at senior level. The successful person will work for the Assistant Secretary to the Society and his job will involve a wide range of duties. The position calls for exceptionally good shorthand/typing skills, initiative, organisation and administrative ability and all tact and discretion. Write or telephone for an application form to: Mrs. H. Crowley, Personnel Department, 27 Baker Street, London W1 2AA. Tel: 01-488 5544 Ext. 136. Closing date for enquiries - 27th May

SECRETARY/PA

Required for director of international property group. Interesting position requiring a good education and intelligence, a cheerful and energetic disposition and the ability to work on own initiative. Very pleasant environment.

London West End. Age 25-30. Commencing salary £9,000 plus benefits. No agencies.

Reply to Box 0250 H The Times

DIRECTOR'S PA

to £8,750+

Exc Bank Benefits

We have a superb opportunity for a first class secretary to join them and perform basic office management duties including bookkeeping experience to trial balance. You should have previous bookkeeping experience through a management course with a firm of accountants. Business studies would be considered. 100/50 skills needed.

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PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS

18 Grosvenor Street London W1 Telephone 01-499 8070

Public Appointments

The Association of Community Health Councils is looking for a

SECRETARY

(Chief Officer to the Association)

Applications are invited from persons with suitable qualifications and experience. Community Health Councils are established by statute to represent the interests of the public in areas of the National Health Service. There are 217 Community Health Councils in England and Wales, the overwhelming majority of which are members of the Association. The Association provides support and information services for them and is governed by a Standing Committee representing all the NHS regions in England and Wales. The Secretary is responsible for the work to the Association, and is a member of the Editorial Board of its publication 'CHC NEWS'. Salary range £11,394 - £14,164 (NHS Scale 21) plus 2287 lower London weighting, and excellent car user allowance. A detailed job description may be obtained from the address below, and applications, accompanied by the names of two referees, should be received by Monday, 6 June 1983. Association of Community Health Councils for England and Wales, 362 Euston Road, London NW1 2SE. Tel 01-836 4814.

£8,000 + ADVERTISING

Audio not shorthand skills are required by the MD of a West End firm. An equal mix of secretarial and PA work, including personnel, is envisaged. French or German useful. 24-34.

439 7001 WEST END 377 8500 CITY

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Salary £10,923; 26 days holiday

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General Appointments

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES
IN ENGINEERING AND
RELATED DISCIPLINES

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY

Challenging opportunities for well-qualified graduates seeking to develop their careers in manufacturing industry are offered through the Teaching Company Scheme. Successful applicants will be offered 2-year appointments in a university or polytechnic department, but will work full-time in a manufacturing company, under joint academic and industrial supervision, on projects in production, engineering and related areas, forming part of a company programme of modernisation and development.

These demanding posts should form the basis for accelerated career development, possibly within the partner company. The vacancies arise from the establishment of several new academic/industrial partnerships within the Teaching Company Scheme. Through such partnerships, the Scheme aims to improve companies' manufacturing performance and develop potentially high-calibre engineering managers.

SALARY
In the normal range for project engineers in the industry in question.

AGE
Between 21-30.

QUALIFICATIONS
Preferably first or good second class degree in engineering or the physical sciences, and preferably with at least one year's industrial experience. Consideration will be given to candidates with other qualifications and appropriate experience. There may be a few posts for suitable graduates in business studies.

If you have the right experience and qualifications and wish to be considered, send your CV to:
The Teaching Company Directorate (T) Science and Engineering Research Council
Polaris House North Star Avenue
Swindon SN2 1ET. CLOSING DATE:
9th June 1983.
You should indicate preferred geographical areas in the UK.

The Times Guide to career training
The tide turns for alternatives

Edward Fennell, in the first of two articles, looks at job prospects in renewable energy

The energy industry is in a shambles: oil prices yo-yo; coal is beset by the problem of uneconomic pits; nuclear power is so controversial that many doubt its future; gas is preparing for the day when North Sea supplies are exhausted. So it is not surprising that an embryo alternative energy industry is emerging, offering career prospects as long-term as the renewable energy sources themselves.

Behind the scenes there are already thousands of people quietly getting on and preparing to meet the energy needs of the twenty-first century. Many big employers, across a surprisingly wide range of industries, are ploughing money and time into harnessing the energy of wind, wave and sun, and the chances are that they will get their investment back many times over.

Scientists, engineers and many other professionals interested in the long-term challenge of alternative energy will find genuine career opportunities open to them. You don't have to join a hippy commune to work on a windmill.

Before looking at specific jobs and projects, however, it is important to set the context. There are at least eight

forms of renewable energy - wind, wave, tidal, solar, hot dry rock, aquifer, biomass and hydro power. In addition there are also non-renewable alternatives to conventional fuels. It all adds up to a highly complex picture, made even more so by the major possibilities of saving energy through conservation policies and energy-saving design.

Current government support for R & D in "renewables" is sizable but tends to vary in proportion to the cost of oil. If oil prices are low, interest in the "renewable" alternatives is reduced, so the speed with which they enter the field depends purely on their price, relative to what is already on offer.

None the less, most observers are convinced that we are at the dawn of a new energy age, with the job prospects which go with that. As David Mallon, Under Secretary of State for Energy, said last year: "We

have a renewable programme that faces up to the challenge of the future. Several of the renewables are nearing or have entered the stage of commercial application, not only for the home market but also for exports. I trust that British industry will take note of these opportunities."

The complexity of the projects has involved the building up of interdisciplinary teams where the skills of, for example, geologists, chemists, physicists, computer scientists, mathematicians, drilling technologists and oceanographers might all be required. Alternative energy might be "natural" but the technology is very complicated and pollution could still result. By playing around with the wind or tides or by pumping up and dispersing hot brine (as in geothermal aquifers), local ecology can easily be adversely affected. So there is also an important role for environmental scientists to monitor the impact of renewable energy projects.

The money for renewable energy work is coming from the government, from the EEC, from industry and from the universities. Next week I shall examine where the jobs are and which projects are proving most promising.

Don't overlook the fringe

If the benefits are good, a lower base salary could be attractive says David Clutterbuck

The true cost of maintaining a professional employee or manager in London is more than two and a half times his salary, calculates a major British company. Even outside the capital, the figure is probably not that much less. About 20 per cent of the total cost is made up of pension and health insurance, which is in itself a loss to the company.

To most people benefits means little more than a company car and a pension scheme, perhaps with private health insurance thrown in. But the range of benefits, many of them worth a great deal in cash terms, which companies offer can and do vary greatly. In looking at the terms of a new job it pays to examine closely what the various benefits offered are worth to you, in your particular circumstances. What looks like an attractive offer from a salary point of view may in fact be worth less than one with a lower base salary and better perks.

The basic pension and health insurances may all be either contributory or non-contributory, for example. Although you still have to pay some national insurance, a non-contributory scheme can cut your outlay considerably, or allow you to invest in a private insurance, which you control.

In addition, there is a whole variety of perks, which the company can provide, often at marginal cost, but which can save you a great deal of cash. Some companies provide suits to front-line employees who have constant contact with the public. After a while, the suits may be sold to the employees at second hand value, on

the ground that to a professional or managerial employee a suit is as much a working uniform as overalls are to a mechanic.

This kind of benefit is relatively easy to value. Other common examples include:
● rail travel vouchers (taxable but well worth having) or interest-free loans to buy annual season tickets;
● newspapers and magazines, for anyone who has an obvious need to keep in touch with business news;
● full or part payment for night classes or correspondence courses;
● club memberships;

● free or subsidised housing (although the Chancellor caught this firmly in his net in the recent budget, partly as a result of the row over Marks & Spencer executives living at low rents in very expensive company owned houses);
● the opportunity to take the spouse on one or more business trips a year (some companies encourage this because it helps contain work/family conflict. It also helps form closer business relationships with foreign clients, who are much more likely to invite the businessman home to dinner if his wife is travelling with him);

● discounts on company goods and services. These tend to vary in value according to what the company produces, but can represent substan-

tial savings. Building society and bank employees, for example, usually enjoy highly preferential mortgage terms.

Computer companies often offer substantial discounts on microcomputers. IBM, for example, knocks off 30 per cent of the retail price to employees. Apple Corp., however, goes much further. It gives employees with six months' service a £2,000 microcomputer and accessories free. The company believes the gift more than repays itself because the employees become totally familiar with the product. They also develop new software in their spare time, which Apple can sell to customers.

Some companies also run travel and theatre agencies for their employees, passing on the agency discount in reduced prices.

Less easy to value are the miscellaneous services provided by a growing number of companies. Investment advice for managers, now commonplace in the United States, is gradually finding its way into British companies. So too is advice on pensions and legal problems which can be bought on a company-wide basis for a very small outlay per head.

By and large, these benefits are not normally discussed at job interviews. They are left for you to absorb once you have joined the company. If, however, you arm yourself at the beginning with a checklist of what benefits would be of greatest value to you, you may see a new job offer in a very different light.

The author is a management author and director of ITEM (Publishers) Ltd.

General Appointments

INFORMATION
SYSTEM

We are a City firm of solicitors with a Tax Department dealing primarily with corporate and commercial tax matters.

We wish to appoint a person to be responsible for reviewing and administering the Tax Department's information system.

The Tax Department's information system (which comprises information gathered through the Department's work from Revenue statements, articles, etc.) has been built up over a number of years. The system is now maintained on computer in a specially designed programme in order to assist retrieval of the material.

Applicants should have a legal or accountancy background with specialist knowledge of technical corporate and commercial tax matters. Experience in librarianship, indexing or academic research would be an advantage. Applicants should be capable of analysing, indexing and cross-referencing a wide variety of written material with a technical tax content. Training will be given for those with no knowledge of computers.

In addition the appropriate applicant might also be asked to research and prepare technical papers on taxation topics.

The nature of the assignment would not necessarily involve full time attendance at the office or regular office hours.

Please reply, enclosing a curriculum vitae, which will be treated in complete confidence to: A.E. Sadler.

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BLACKFRIARS HOUSE, 19 NEW BRIDGE STREET
LONDON E.C.4.

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British Museum

Oriental Antiquities
Research Assistant

... to assist with duties related to all aspects of the collections from the Islamic world, the Indian sub-continent and South-East Asia, with special emphasis on the Islamic archaeological material. Work includes documenting the collections; dealing with public enquiries; bibliography; library and photographic archive work; organising temporary exhibitions; assisting in the preparation of publications; giving public lectures.

Candidates should normally have a degree in Arabic, Persian, Turkish, Sanskrit or another language of one of the areas concerned and should preferably also have qualifications, experience or interest in the material culture of the Islamic world, the sub-continent of India or South-East Asia.

SALARY (under review): As Curator Grade E 0845-£10975 or Curator Grade F 06740-£8920. Level of appointment and starting salary according to qualifications and experience.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 15 June 1983) write to Civil Service Commission, Alconon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1PA, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: G12332.

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Theological competence with particular interest in issues of Faith and Order. Ready to work with those who express their faith in differing ways. Able to encourage staff members with responsibility for evangelism, ecumenism, local ecclesiastical councils and public and youth concerns. The person appointed will be responsible for the effective running of the Division and prepare an annual report for the Assembly. Candidates must be members in good standing of a premier church on the BCC.

Salary £10,475

Job description and application form available from: Rev. Basil Amey, 2, Eaton Gate, London, SW1W 9BL. Tel: 01-730 9611. Closing date for applications: Wednesday 8th June 1983.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

requires a

RESEARCHER

In the EUROPE RESEARCH DEPARTMENT
OF THE INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT

The work includes investigating human rights abuses, preparing material on them and advising on initiatives to be taken by Amnesty International on relation to prisoners of conscience, trial procedures and the treatment of prisoners. The Researcher will be asked to work on several countries, including Poland, the Federal Republic of Germany and the United Kingdom.

Knowledge of relevant political background and legal systems highly desirable. Fluent English essential; good working knowledge of German and Polish also required. This post is based in London.

Salary £28,784.00 per annum (index-linked)

For a detailed job specification and an application form write to the Personnel Department, Amnesty International, 10 Southampton Street, London WC2E 7HF or telephone 01-436 7788 ext 289. Telex: 28502.

Closing date for the return of completed application forms: 30 June 1983.

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Knowledge of relevant political background and legal systems highly desirable. Fluent English essential; good working knowledge of German and Polish also required. This post is based in London.

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TECHNICAL STAFF (App) 01-82

Tory pledge of union and council reform

Continued from page 1

defence, employment and prosperity - with the defence of Britain's "traditional liberties and distinctive way of life" as the most vital decision for the voters.

Bogus social contracts and government overspending are not, she writes, the answer to unemployment.

The manifesto deals with the consequences of breaking up the metropolitan authorities. In London, there will be a transport authority to run trains and buses. Education in inner London will be run, in place of ILEA, by a joint board of borough representatives over which ministers are apparently confident they can exercise close financial control.

Other specific proposals include legislation to deal with violent and obscene video cassettes and reform of the divorce laws, with particular reference to financial arrangements, as recommended by the Law Commission in 1981.

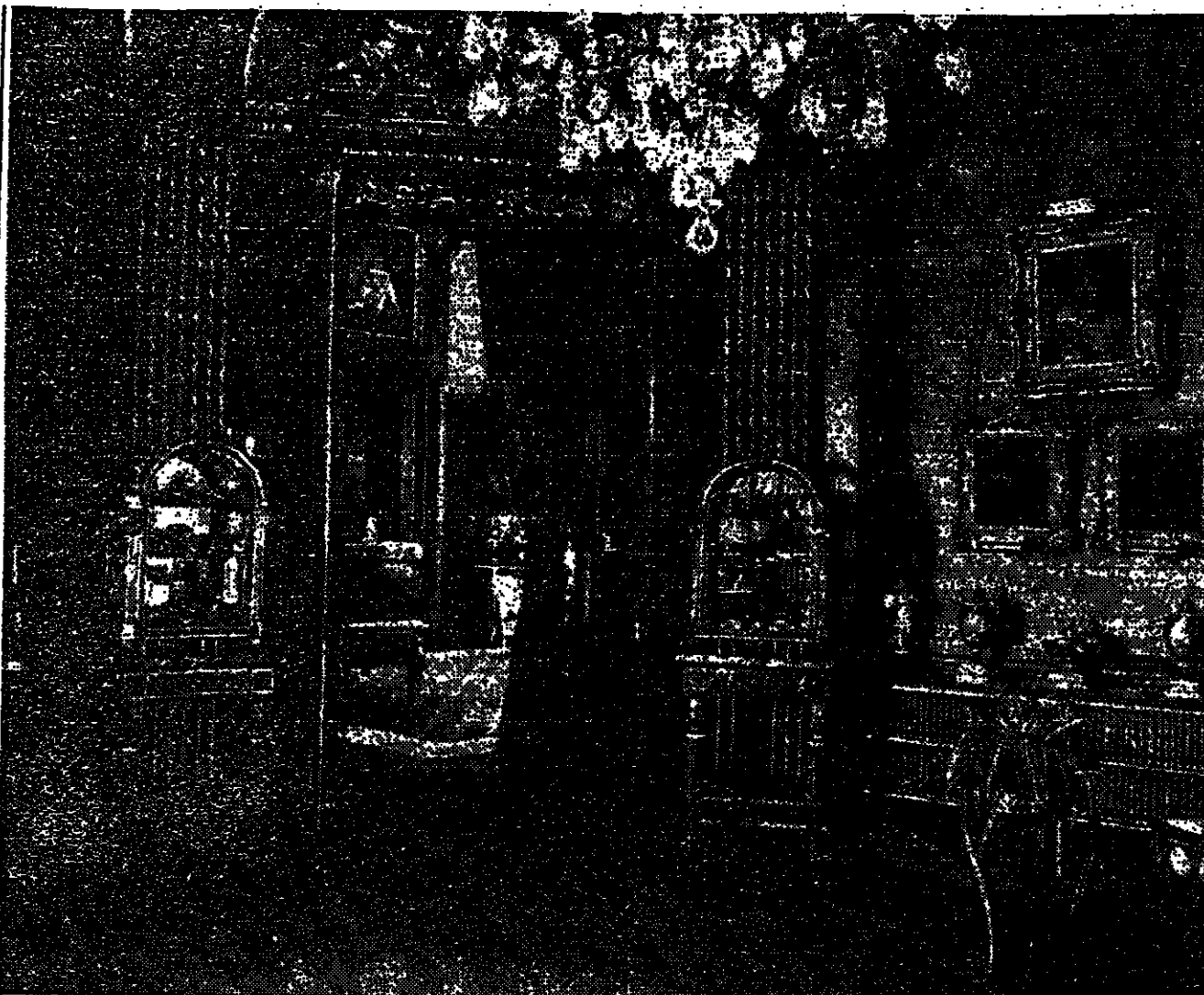
Among ideas for which the time has not been judged ripe are several in the field of education. There is no mention of loans for students in lieu of supplementation of grants, and plans for education vouchers, long favoured by Sir Keith Joseph, have again been put aside. There is strong resistance in the party to both lines of thought.

The Prime Minister, unveiling the manifesto with seven attendant Cabinet ministers at Conservative Central Office, described it as robust, with some policies representing continuity and others representing change.

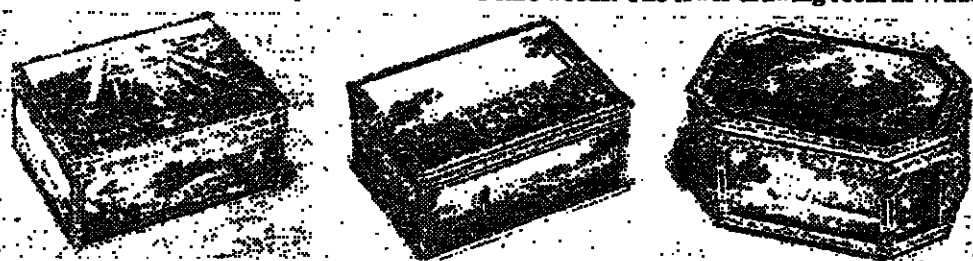
Lower inflation was a continuous policy. Lower direct taxes on individuals was another, "very helpful on jobs".

The press were invited to compare the cost of the manifesto proposals, already published in the Government's expenditure plans, with other proposals on offer.

"We were dead broke in 1976", after two years of Labour government, Mrs Thatcher said. Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, said it was astounding that it was necessary to provide for the election, at least every five years, of trade union leaders by their members. But accounts by Mr Frank Chapple, the electricians' leader, of manipulation and intimidation proved the need.



Superb furniture and rare woods: The tower drawing room at Waddesdon.



Three of the stolen gold snuff-boxes, the first two by Van Blarenbergh.

Disposal headache for thieves

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

The thieves who struck at Waddesdon Manor, near Aylesbury, are likely to have the greatest difficulty in finding buyers for the stolen works of art, it is their intention.

All the pieces have been photographed and carefully studied. They are described and illustrated in the sumptuous catalogues of the collection, which have been published on behalf of the National Trust.

Thus any dealer knowing enough, say, of French eighteenth-century gold boxes to understand the true market value of such treasures would also be sufficiently knowledgeable to recognize instantly

where the pieces come from. They are just too famous to sell overtly in Britain or any other country. In so specialized a field, French, German or American dealers would be as familiar with the collection.

In this case the thieves cannot do a deal with the insurers either, since it is National Trust policy not to insure its treasures except against breakage. It argues that such treasures are irreplaceable, so there is no point in insuring.

An official of the trust, however, said yesterday that if the thieves were after a ransom he hoped they would get in touch.

The only way of making

money on the theft would seem to be a sale to a collector who is prepared to buy stolen goods and keep his collection hidden. There are always said to be such collectors in South America.

The pieces could be broken up and melted down to obtain the constituent jewels and gold, but only a tiny fraction of the true value would be realized.

Waddesdon Manor, is a fairy tale celebration of Rothschild taste. The building is a palace in French Renaissance style built in the 1870s for Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild to house his superb collection of works of art, with an emphasis on the French eighteenth century.

Lone thief takes art treasures

Continued from page 1

cludes Sevres vases, paintings, carpets and furniture but the burglar made straight for the cabinets with their easily portable contents.

The police said that he entered the house at 3.55am yesterday, an hour before dawn. He propped a wooden ladder against a tall window secluded from the terrace of the building, opened a smaller window at the top and then climbed down the other side using a rope ladder.

He was on his way to safety as police from Aylesbury raced to the house alerted by what is described as a sophisticated security system.

Yesterday the National Trust would not discuss the security systems for the manor. The security staff are Trust employees but the Trust takes professional outside advice on the systems that they use.

Unlike some country homes Waddesdon does not have any perimeter wall.

Damascus rebuffs American mission

Continued from page 1

Israel which Syria regards as equally submissive towards Israel and the United States - it seems increasingly unlikely that the Syrians will consider a withdrawal of their army from Lebanon.

When Mr Shultz came here at the end of his recent visit to the Middle East, he spent three hours with President Assad, at least one hour of which, it transpires, was spent listening to the Syrian leader's explanation of the history of the Arab world.

According to an English-speaking photographer who was present when they met Mr Shultz turned to President Assad with the words: "Your newspapers are being very unkind to Mr Habib. We think he's pretty good at his job of peacemaking."

President Assad snapped back: "We have different ideas about peacemaking." Perhaps the Americans should have taken the point.

Syria's rejection of the new agreement has already had its effect in Libya - perhaps Syria's closest Arab ally - where the Government yesterday recalled its embassy staff from Beirut.

The Lebanese retaliated by recalling their ambassador to Libya.

The Libyans are asking the Arab League to apply the same sanctions against Lebanon as it took against Egypt after the Camp David treaty, but most Arab nations have either expressed cautious support or remained silent.

Syria is exaggerating the degree of Arab support it is being given, and there are a few signs that the Government here is pausing for thought after its initial refusal to withdraw its troops from Lebanon.

A press conference to be held by a senior foreign ministry official has twice been cancelled without explanation, and the press yesterday refrained from continuing its attacks on the Lebanese government.

The Syrian Army in Lebanon relaxed its checkpoints on the main roads leading across the Syrian and Israeli front lines in the centre of the country. Motorists were able to travel freely from Beirut to Tripoli, although several highways remained closed in the mountains above Beirut, and both Syrian and Israeli troops delayed cars for up to five hours on the international highway to Damascus.

Reason optimism, page 6

Frank Johnson's campaign trail Confidence, speech - both unstoppable

Conservative Manifesto Day at last. We shall never forget it. Not the manifesto. The day.

Hundreds of us were packed into a relatively small room at Conservative Central Office. Space ran out very early. In the corridor outside, other of our profession clamoured for admittance. They were the lucky ones. Inside, a combination of the people, the television lights, and Mrs Thatcher taking a stop at you for 20 minutes in a confined space meant that conditions rapidly deteriorated.

The Prime Minister arrived through the throng accompanied by Mr Cecil Parkinson, Mr William Whitelaw, Mr Francis Pym, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Mr Norman Tebbit, Mr Michael Heseltine, Mr Tom King and Mr Dennis Thatcher.

There was also Mr Ian Gow, her parliamentary private secretary. He is her eminence grise except that he is bald. Mr Parkinson, Mr Whitelaw, Mr Pym, Sir Geoffrey, Mr Heseltine and Mr King positioned themselves around her on the platform. Mr Gow gripped away to one side.

Mr Thatcher took up the position of real influence, out of sight at the back of the hall. He fought a masterly campaign in 1979. When, on the first day of that contest, the then Leader of the Opposition cuddled a calf in a field in Norfolk, he was responsible for the best phrase to emerge from the Thatcher family during that campaign. ("If we're not careful, we'll have a dead calf on our hands.")

Now the only thing that stood between him and a second term in Downing Street was his wife. She had always been just a little bit too controversial for the wife of a public figure such as himself. But yesterday she was, so far as we knew, ahead still in every poll of which we had knowledge. Her confidence was unstoppable, as indeed was her conversation. All the indications were that her husband was fighting another winning campaign.

Mrs Thatcher's torrential opening, a 20-minute address to us explaining the manifesto, took in all topics at present known in British politics. She also promised to outlaw wild nannies. A Labour government would include within this legislation party political broadcasts by Mr Tebbit.

But Mr Tebbit was by far

the colleague most in favour with Mrs Thatcher yesterday and the only one who could come close to her inspirational tone.

Mr Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, elected not to make a statement at this stage, but to go for trial in the next Parliament.

"Can we have your questions?" Mrs Thatcher eventually demanded. It turned out that Mr Whitelaw, Sir Geoffrey, Mr Pym, Mr Tebbit, Mr Heseltine, Mr King and Mr Parkinson did not have any questions. This could explain how the Cabinet arrives at the Government's policies.

But it urged that we had misunderstood her. We were the ones who were supposed to ask the questions.

Sir Robin Day inquired of an omission in the manifesto: any reference to the Trident weapon. Mr Heseltine replied that there was a reference to the deterrent, though not to Trident. "I'm very grateful to you."

Mrs Thatcher whopped in the direction of Sir Robin. "Have you got any more?"

Asked about the Falklands, Mr Pym implied that there could be negotiations if Argentina accepted an end to the conflict. "On commercial links," he swiftly added.

Thatcher. The Foreign Secretary said quite clearly on commercial links. "Actually Mr Pym had not said it quite clearly at all."

Mr Pym, whose only intervention this was, drew his head back into those rather tortoise-like shoulders of his.

Someone asked if there would be free votes on hanging in the new Parliament. She said yes. Suddenly, Mr Whitelaw stirred his large, much-loved, round features. "Absolutely, and there are so many opportunities for doing it, I'm sure it will be done," he said. This could have referred to hanging or voting. Someone else asked about the fall in industrial production. Sir Geoffrey began to answer. The questioner sought something about the Chancellor's figures being to do with oil. "Leaving aside oil," said the Chancellor, and gently finished his answer.

"Why leave out oil?" crashed in the Prime Minister. "It is a success for technology and for private enterprise."

"Hear, hear," muttered, at the back of the room, old man Mr Thatcher, a former director of Burmah, who had dealt with many a blow out or gusher in his time.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements
The Queen, accompanied by the Prince and Princess of Wales and Princess Anne, princess of Wales, will attend the Household Cavalry Horse Guards Parade, 11.

The Queen attends a garden party at Burton Court given by Household Cavalry, 4.

Princess Margaret, as Chancellor, visits Keele University, Staffordshire, 2.25.

The Duke of Kent attends the eightieth anniversary reception of

the King Edward VII's Hospital for Officers at St James's Palace, SW1, 6.30.

Prince and Princess Michael of Kent attend the presentation by the Queen of new Standards to the Household Cavalry, Horse Guards Parade, 11.

Prince Michael attends the Army Air Corps Centre Guest Night Dinner at the Officers' Mess, Army Air Corps, Middle Wallop, Hampshire, 19.

Princess Alexandra visits the Royal Institution of Great Britain, 21 Albemarle Street, W1, 5.40; and attends the reception of Kings

Edward VII's Hospital for Officers, 6.30.

New exhibitions
Etchings and other intaglio techniques, Glasgow Art Gallery, Kelvingrove; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5. (from today until June 19).

Exhibitions in progress
Six Attitudes: Paintings by Susan Boyton, Stuart Cox, Andrew Eden, Colin Garden, Bill Mitchell and Charlotte Moore, City Museum and Art Gallery, Priestsgate, Peterborough; Tues to Sat 10 to 5 (until June 4).

Blackburn Camera Club exhibition, Museum and Art Gallery, Library Street, Blackburn; Mon to Fri 9.30 to 6, Sat 9.30 to 5 (until June 4).

Dimensions in Watercolour: Landscapes, figure and flower drawings by Peter Utton, Looking Glass Gallery of Modern Arts, 53 Halifax Road, Todmorden; Tues to Sat, 10 to 5.30 (ends May 28).

Midlands: Sculpture and West Midlands: Agricultural Show, Shrewsbury; extra traffic in town centre and A5, A49 and A53. M1 Lane closures both ways at junction 19 (M6), A46: Roadworks at Bridgefoot Gyratory, Stratford-on-Avon.

Train delays
British Rail reports that engineering work on the East Coast line will delay some trains today. Disruption between Newcastle and Edinburgh between 8 am and 5 pm will be diverted via Carlisle, adding one hour to the journey. Services will return to the normal route starting with the 12 midday Kings Cross to Edinburgh and 4 pm Edinburgh to Kings Cross trains.

Local passengers between Newcastle and Edinburgh will be conveyed by special rail and bus shuttle services during the nine-hour closure period.

Roads
London and South-east: Ceremony at Horse Guards Parade, central London; several roads closed from 1.30 pm until 1 pm, severe congestion in Westminster, Victoria and St James. M20: Carriageway closures between junctions 5 and 7, north of Maidstone. A272: Closed to traffic between Petersfield and A32 from 9 am; diversion.

Midlands: Shropshire and West Midlands: Agricultural Show, Shrewsbury; extra traffic in town centre and A5, A49 and A53. M1 Lane closures both ways at junction 19 (M6), A46: Roadworks at Bridgefoot Gyratory, Stratford-on-Avon.

Wales and West Devon County Show, Whipton, Exeter; heavy traffic in city centre and M5, A20 and B3212 (until Saturday), M5: Northbound carriageway shared between junctions 13 and 14 (Stroud and Thornbury). A59: Lane closure at Exeter, Devon. A65: Temporary lights at Penzance Head, Old Colwyn.

Scotland: A77: Single lane south of Lendalloch. M9: Southbound carriageway shared between junctions 5 and 7 (Glasgow and Bridge). A82: Great Western Road, Glasgow. Closed eastbound.

Information supplied by the AA.

Weather forecast

A depression centred over Wales will drift slowly E.

6 am to midnight

London, East Angles, SE, Central S, E and SW England, E Midlands, Channel Islands, S. and W. Ireland, strong heavy at times, perhaps thundery; wind SW, moderate; max 14 to 16C (57 to 61F).

W Midlands, Wales, NW and Central N England, Lake District, Isle of Man, S. and W. Ireland, strong heavy at times, perhaps thundery; wind SW, moderate; max 13 to 15C (55 to 59F).

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Scottish showers, sun intervals; wind NE, moderate; max 13 to 15C (55 to 59F).

SW and NW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Angles, N Ireland, Scottish showers, sun intervals; wind NE, moderate; max 13 to 15C (55 to 59F).

W. Ireland, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland; Cloudy, some sunny intervals; NE, light to moderate; max 10 to 12C (50 to 54F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Saturday: Little change.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea: Wind SE, light; sea smooth. Straits of Dover: Wind SE, moderate to strong, heavy at times; at times, sea slight or moderate. English Channel (SE): Wind SW, moderate or heavy; sea slight or moderate. St George's Channel: Fresh SE Wind NE, light or moderate; sea smooth or slight.

Sun rises: 5.04 am Sun sets: 8.51 pm
Moon rises: 2.33 am Moon sets: 11.43 am
First quarter: 3.17 pm

Lighting-up time

London 8.21 pm to 4.33 am
Bristol 8.20 pm to 4.33 am
Edinburgh 8.20 pm to 4.33 am
Glasgow 8.20 pm to 4.33 am
Liverpool 8.20 pm to 4.33 am
Manchester 8.20 pm to 4.33 am
Newcastle 8.20 pm to 4.33 am
Preston 8.20 pm to 4.33 am
Sheffield 8.20 pm to 4.33 am
Southampton 8.20 pm to 4.33 am
Tottenham 8.20 pm to 4.33 am
Wolverhampton 8.20 pm to 4.33 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; i, rain; s, sun; F, Fahrenheit; C, Celsius.

City	C	F
Birmingham	10.10	50.2
Bristol	11.25	52.3
Cardiff	11.25	52.3
Edinburgh	11.25	52.3
Glasgow	11.25	52.3
London	11.25	52.3
Manchester	11.25	52.3
Newcastle	11.25	52.3
Nottingham	11.25	52.3
Sheffield	11.25	52.3
Southampton	11.25	52.3
Tottenham	11.25	52.3
Wolverhampton	11.25	52.3

Anniversaries

Births: Johann Fichte, philosopher, Rammensau, Germany, 1762; Desiderius Erasmus, Rotterdam, 1466; George Washington, Virginia, 1732; Ho Chi Minh, Hoang Tri, Vietnam, 1890.

Deaths: Albert Einstein, Princeton, New Jersey, 1955; William Ewart Gladstone, Prime Minister, 1868-74, 1890-95, 1892-94, Hawarden, Cheshire, 1875; E. Lawrence (Lawrence of Arabia), Clonsilla Hill, Dorset, 1935. Youth and Sport Day in Turkey.

Today is the Feast of Saint Dunstan who was born near Glastonbury C 910. After a period at the court of King Alchstan he entered the Benedictine Order and in 943 became abbot of Glastonbury. While there he initiated many reforms in the monastic order. He found favour with King Edgar, becoming a counsellor to the king. In 960 he was appointed archbishop of Canterbury. Dunstan's importance lies more in his success as a statesman than as an ecclesiastic. He died in 988.

The pound

Bank	Bank	Bank
Australia	1.84	1.76
Belgium	28.40	26.40
Canada	1.97	1.89
Denmark	14.20	13.48
Finland	8.90	8.40
France	11.98	11.38
Germany DM	3.98	3.78
Greece Dr	133.00	126.60
Hongkong \$	11.23	10.65
Ireland Pt	1.26	1.20
Italy Lira	2360.00	2250.00
Japan Yen	362.00	362.00
Netherlands Gld	4.47	4.25
Norway Kr	11.54	10.94
Portugal Esc	160.00	148.00
South Africa Rd	1.97	1.83
Spain Ptas	214.50	204.50
Sweden Kr	12.15	11.53
Switzerland Fr	5.32	5.14
US Dollars	1.61	1.56
Yugoslavia Dnr	130.80	123.60

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index 327.9.
London: The FT Index closed up 14.2 at 689.8.

Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest: day mist; Cromer, Norfolk, 15C (59F). Lowest: day mist; Cromer, Norfolk, 13C (55F).
Forecast: 19C (66F).
Sunrise: 5.04 am, Sunset: 8.51 pm.
Moonrise: 2.33 am, Moonset: 11.43 pm.
First quarter: 3.17 pm.

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NOON TODAY

Pressure is shown in millibars. Fronts Warm, Cold, Occluded. Symbols as on standard chart.



High tides

Location	AM	PM	HT
London Bridge	7.29	5.5	7.52
Aberdeen	7.10	5.7	6.10
Avalonmouth	12.33	11.1	11.10
Belfast	4.41	3.7	3.30
Cardiff	12.19	10.3	10.25
Dover	11.45	4.5	5.1
Edinburgh	4.38	3.5	3.10
Falmouth	11.15	4.3	4.25
Glasgow	8.05	4.4	4.55
Harwich	8.57	4.7	5.34
Holyhead	3.54	4.9	4.48
London	11.45	4.5	5.1
Lough	8.32	4.8	4.11
Liverpool	7.10	4.3	4.25
Lowestoft	3.22	3.3	3.10
Manchester	5.37	4.4	4.11
Mersey	11.15	4.3	4.25
Newcastle	11.15	4.3	4.25
Portsmouth	11.15	4.3	4.25
Sheffield	11.15	4.3	4.25
Southampton	11.15	4.3	4.25
Stirling	11.15	4.3	4.25
Swansea	11.15	4.3	4.25
Torquay	11.15	4.3	4.25
Wolverhampton	11.15	4.3	4.25
Wrexham	11.15	4.3	4.25

b-blue sky; bc-blue sky and cloud; c-cloudy; o-overcast; f-fog; d-drizzle; h-hail; m-mist; r-rain; s-snow; t-thunderstorm; o-overcast; f-fog; d-drizzle; h-hail; m-mist; r-rain; s-snow; t-thunderstorm.

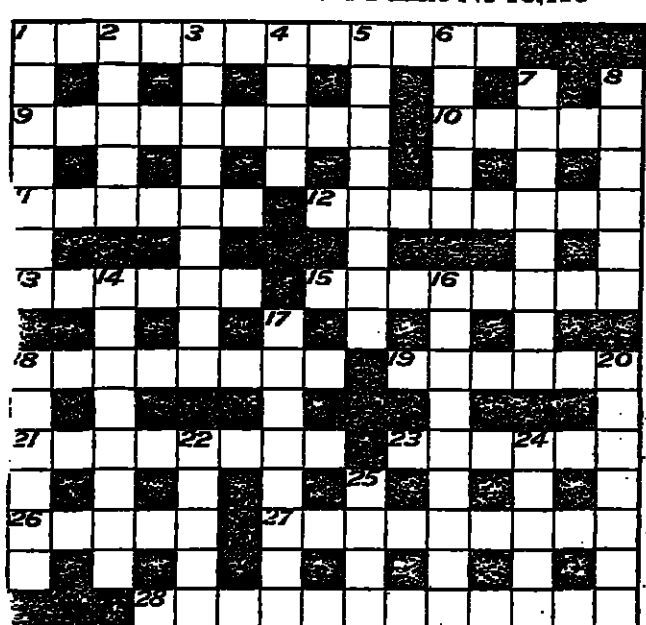
Around Britain

City	Temp	Wind	Cloud
London	11.1	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Birmingham	10.7	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Bristol	10.7	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Cardiff	10.7	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Edinburgh	10.7	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Glasgow	10.7	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Liverpool	10.7	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Manchester	10.7	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Newcastle	10.7	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Nottingham	10.7	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Sheffield	10.7	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Southampton	10.7	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Tottenham	10.7	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Wolverhampton	10.7	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Wrexham	10.7	SE 10	Partly Cloudy

Abroad

City	Temp	Wind	Cloud
Algeria	22.72	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Alexandria	22.72	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Amman	22.72	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Baghdad	22.72	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Bombay	22.72	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Buenos Aires	22.72	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Calcutta	22.72	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Cairo	22.72	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Colon	22.72	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Hankow	22.72	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Harbin	22.72	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Hong Kong	22.72	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Kobe	22.72	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
London	22.72	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Lyons	22.72	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Manila	22.72	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Medan	22.72	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Osaka	22.72	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Paris	22.72	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Rangoon	22.72	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
San Francisco	22.72	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Singapore	22.72	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Sourabaya	22.72	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Tokyo	22.72	SE 10	Partly Cloudy
Yokohama	22.72	SE 10	Partly Cloudy

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,133



- ACROSS**
-